## WEEK STARTING JANUARY 12

Song 162

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*jd* chap. 13 ¶1-6

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Genesis 6-10
**No. 1:** Genesis 9:1-17
**No. 2:** Responding to Objections About Belief in God (*rs* p. 150 ¶3–p. 151 ¶3)
**No. 3:** A Letter From a Loving God (*lr* chap. 2)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 16

***5 min:*** Local announcements.

**10 min:** The Value of a Positive Attitude in Our Ministry. Audience discussion. Jesus provided a good example for us in that he viewed those to whom he preached as sheep in need of help. (Matt. 9:36-38) Though Ananias was initially apprehensive about calling on Saul, what helped him to change his viewpoint? (Acts 9:13-15) How did his approach indicate a positive attitude on his part? (Acts 9:17) What reasons do we have for approaching people in our territory with a positive attitude? How will a positive attitude make our ministry more effective? Briefly interview one or two publishers whose positive attitude led to good results in their ministry.

**10 min:** How to Use *Reasoning From the Scriptures*. Talk by service overseer or other elder based on the *Reasoning* book, pages 7-8.

**10 min:** "How Will They Hear?"*

Song 38

*** Limit introductory comments to less than a minute, and follow with a question-and-answer discussion.**

## How Will They Hear?

1 With Jehovah's day fast approaching, there is an urgent need to assist yet countless others in obtaining an accurate knowledge of God and his purpose for mankind. (John 17:3; 2 Pet. 3:9, 10) This may be challenging at times, since many are apathetic or may ridicule us because of our preaching work. (2 Pet. 3:3, 4) Nonetheless, we have every reason to believe that there are still those in our territory who will accept the good news once they hear it. How will such ones hear without someone to preach?—Rom. 10:14, 15.

2 **Facing Opposition:** For the sake of those willing to hear the Kingdom message, we must not be deterred. Philippi was the first city in Europe to hear the apostle Paul preach the good news. When false accusations were leveled against him and Silas, both were beaten with rods and thrown into prison. (Acts 16:16-24) However, that painful experience did not cause Paul to shrink back in fear. When he visited Thessalonica, the next city on his missionary tour, he 'mustered up boldness by means of God.' (1 Thess. 2:2) Does not Paul's example illustrate the reason for our 'not giving up'?—Gal. 6:9.

3 Many who have refused to listen for years have experienced a change of heart. Economic reversal, illness, a death in the family, or reports of disturbing events on the world scene may prompt such a change. (1 Cor. 7:31) Some whose parents were opposed have become adults and are willing to listen. Our continued preaching gives such ones the opportunity to 'call on the name of Jehovah' before it is too late.—Rom. 10:13.

4 **"Without Letup":** Our love for God and neighbor will motivate us to continue "without letup" in the preaching and disciple-making work, just as the apostles did in the first century. (Acts 5:42) Many today are "sighing and groaning over all the detestable things" now taking place. (Ezek. 9:4) What hope and relief such ones receive when they hear the good news! Even when most people refuse to listen, we have Scriptural assurance that Jehovah is well pleased with our efforts. —Heb. 13:15, 16.

1. Why may the preaching work be challenging, and why do we persist?

2. How does the example of the apostle Paul encourage us?

3. What may cause some to have a change of heart though previously not interested?

4. What motivates us to continue in the ministry "without letup"?

**WEEK STARTING JANUARY 19**
Song 126

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*jd* chap. 13 ¶7-14

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Genesis 11-16
**No. 1:** Genesis 14:1-16
**No. 2:** The One Who Made All Things (*lr* chap. 3)
**No. 3:** How Does Jehovah Mold Us? (Isa. 64:8)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 90

**5 min:** Local announcements. Selected Announcements from *Our Kingdom Ministry.*

**10 min:** Fear the True God and Keep His Commandments. Enthusiastic talk by an elder based on the *Ministry School* book, page 272 to page 273, paragraph 1.

**10 min:** The Offer for February. Briefly review the contents of the publications being offered, and have one or two presentations demonstrated.

**10 min:** "Keep Yourselves in God's Love."* Point out special features of the publication. Encourage all to be regular in attendance and to have a full share in commenting.

Song 133

*** Limit introductory comments to less than a minute, and follow with a question-and-answer discussion.**

## "Keep Yourselves in God's Love"

1 How keenly we anticipate considering the new book *"Keep Yourselves in God's Love"* at the Congregation Bible Study beginning the week of February 23! The letter that the Governing Body addressed to each lover of Jehovah concludes with these words: "It is our sincere hope that this publication will help you to continue to apply the truth in your life and thus keep yourself 'in God's love . . . with everlasting life in view.'—Jude 21."

1. For what purpose was *"Keep Yourselves in God's Love"* published?

2 **What to Anticipate:** How do Bible principles apply in areas such as association, entertainment, respect for authority, personal habits, marriage, speech, and customs? Our consciences will be molded according to the lofty standards of righteousness revealed in God's Word. (Ps. 19:7, 8) As our understanding of Jehovah's way of thinking increases, our obedience in all areas of life will be motivated by a desire to please him.—Prov. 27:11; 1 John 5:3.

3 **Be Determined to Participate:** As you prepare, make it your goal to praise God among his congregated people. (Heb. 13:15) The entire congregation will consider this new study publication together. The smaller portion of material will allow all of us to prepare thoroughly, giving us confidence to share what we have learned. Our well-prepared, concise comments will incite others to love and fine works and will contribute to a lively, meaningful consideration of the material. (Heb. 10:24) Also, our joy will be made full as we individually make expressions of our faith.

4 On his final night on earth as a human, Jesus linked observing Jehovah's commandments with remaining in God's love. (John 15:10) With the assistance of the *"God's Love"* book, we will be more resolved than ever to apply Bible principles in everyday life and to 'keep ourselves in God's love.'—Jude 21.

2. In what areas of life will this new book help us?
3. Why should we do our best to participate in each week's lesson?
4. Why is it imperative that we observe Jehovah's commandments?

© 2009 Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. All rights reserved. *Our Kingdom Ministry* (ISSN 1067-7259) is published monthly by Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses; C. I. Woody, President; W. H. Nonkes, Secretary-Treasurer; 2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237. Periodicals Postage Paid at Brooklyn, NY, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *Our Kingdom Ministry,* 1000 Red Mills Road, **Wallkill, NY 12589-3299.** Printed in U.S.A.

## WEEK STARTING JANUARY 26

Song 32

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*jd* chap. 13 ¶15-22

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Genesis 17-20
**No. 1:** Genesis 17:1-17
**No. 2:** Why Men Have Been Unable to Establish a Just Government (*rs* pp. 152-153 ¶1)
**No. 3:** God Has a Name (*lr* chap. 4)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 197

**5 min:** Local announcements.

**10 min:** Prepare to Offer the February 1 *Watchtower* and the February *Awake!* Audience discussion. After giving a brief overview of the magazines, ask the audience which articles may appeal to people in the territory and why. Using some of these articles, invite the audience to suggest a question that they would use to start a conversation, then a scripture from the article that they would read before offering the magazines. Conclude by demonstrating how each magazine might be offered using the sample presentations on page 4 or other presentations that were suggested by the audience.

**20 min:** "Do You Know Your Options?"* To be handled by an elder. In conclusion, read the last paragraph.

Song 180

*** Limit introductory comments to less than a minute, and follow with a question-and-answer discussion.**

## Do You Know Your Options?

Bloodless surgery is being performed at an increasing number of medical centers around the world. Are you fully informed of the options that are available in the field of bloodless medicine? You need to know so that you can make informed decisions involving medical treatment and surgery. Watch the video *No Blood—Medicine Meets the Challenge.* Afterward, prayerfully review what you learned with the help of the questions set out below. —Note: Because the video includes brief surgical scenes, parents should use discretion in viewing the video with young children.

**(1)** What is the main reason why Jehovah's Witnesses refuse blood transfusions? **(2)** When it comes to medical care, what do Jehovah's Witnesses desire? **(3)** What basic right do patients have? **(4)** Why is it rational and responsible to choose transfusion alternatives? **(5)** When severe blood loss occurs, what two urgent priorities do doctors have? **(6)** What are the four principles of transfusion-alternative strategies? **(7)** How may doctors (a) minimize blood loss, (b) conserve red blood cells, (c) stimulate blood production, and (d) recover lost blood? **(8)** Describe the procedures known as (a) hemodilution and (b) cell salvage. **(9)** What should you want to be informed about regarding any transfusion alternative? **(10)** Can serious and complicated surgeries be performed without the use of blood transfusions? **(11)** What positive development is taking place within the medical community?

**• Have you determined which medical treatments and procedures you are willing to accept for yourself and your children?**

**• Are you carrying a completed DPA card in case of an emergency?**

***Acceptance of some of the treatments featured in the video is a matter for private decision in accord with each one's Bible-trained conscience.*** Have you taken a clear position on which medical treatments and procedures you are willing to accept for yourself and your children and then filled out a DPA card? For a complete discussion of these matters, carefully review "Questions From Readers" in the June 15, 2004, and October 15, 2000, issues of *The Watchtower.* Then use the work sheets in the November 2006 *Our Kingdom Ministry* insert, "How Do I View Blood Fractions and Medical Procedures Involving My Own Blood?," to make your personal decisions about what options you would accept or refuse. Finally, be sure you have accurately transferred your choices to your DPA card. Your selected health-care agents and any non-Witness family members should be fully informed of your decisions.

## WEEK STARTING FEBRUARY 2

Song 136

**❑ Congregation Bible Study:**

*jd* chap. 14 ¶1-9

**❑ Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Genesis 21-24

**No. 1:** Genesis 22:1-18

**No. 2:** "This Is My Son" (*lr* chap. 5)

**No. 3:** Ways That We Can Widen Out in Our Love for Others (2 Cor. 6:11-13)

**❑ Service Meeting:**

Song 220

**5 min:** Local announcements. Remind publishers to turn in field service reports for January.

**10 min:** Local needs.

**10 min:** Potential Conversation Stoppers. After a brief introduction, demonstrate how we might respond to some of the most common potential conversation stoppers in our territory using the *Reasoning* book, pages 15-20.

**10 min:** Help Those Who Lack Faith in the Bible. Audience discussion based on the *Reasoning* book, pages 64-68. Discuss how various objections about the Bible may be handled. Have a demonstration showing how to overcome an objection that is common in your territory.

Song 23

## Announcements

■ Literature offer for **January:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* If householders already have the book, publishers may offer any 192-page book printed on paper that discolors or any book published prior to 1992 with the exception of *Creation, Greatest Man, Mankind's Search for God,* and *Young People Ask.* **February:** Offer one of the following, as available: *Is There a Creator Who Cares About You?, The Bible—God's Word or Man's?,* or *The Secret of Family Happiness.* **March:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Make a diligent effort to start Bible studies. **April:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. When making return visits on interested people, including those who attend the Memorial or other theocratic events but who are not actively associated with the congregation, concentrate on starting studies using the *Bible Teach* book.

■ Starting the first week in March, the new public talk for circuit overseers will be "Reject Worldly Fantasies, Pursue Kingdom Realities."

■ Congregations should make appropriate arrangements to observe the Memorial this year on Thursday, April 9, after sundown. Each congregation should try to hold its own Memorial observance. Where a number of congregations normally use the same Kingdom Hall, perhaps one or more congregations can obtain the use of another facility for that evening. Where possible, we suggest a minimum of 40 minutes between the programs so that all may benefit fully from some association after the Memorial.

■ It is necessary for the branch office to maintain an up-to-date record of addresses and telephone numbers for all coordinators of the bodies of elders and secretaries. If there is a change at any time, the Congregation Service Committee should complete, sign, and send an S-29 form to the branch office promptly. This includes any changes in telephone area codes.

### Field Service Highlights

We are happy to report a new peak of 116,083 regular pioneers in the United States in September! This is an increase of 4,751 over the previous peak of 111,332 in December 2007.

## What to Say About the Magazines

### THE WATCHTOWER® January 1

"Do you think God is concerned about the ruining of the environment? [Allow for response. Then read Revelation 11:18.] This article provides Scriptural reasons for being optimistic about the future of the earth." Feature the article on page 18.

### Awake!® January

"When faced with problems, many people feel they are being punished by God. Have you ever felt that way? [Allow for response. Then read James 1:13.] This article explains the true source of our problems and why we can be confident that our adversities will soon end." Feature the article that begins on page 28.

### THE WATCHTOWER® February 1

"Do you think that all religions are acceptable to God? [Allow for response.] Notice the concern expressed here by Jesus. [Read Matthew 15:8, 9.] This article considers whether God accepts all forms of worship." Feature the article on page 9.

### Awake!® February

"Everything about the earth indicates that it was made to support life. Do you feel that this is just an accident, or do you believe it shows design by a Creator? [Allow for response.] Many people agree with this Bible verse. [Read Psalm 104:24.] This magazine examines the scientific and Scriptural evidence of a Creator."

**WEEK STARTING FEBRUARY 9**

Song 118

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*jd* chap. 14 ¶10-17

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Genesis 25-28
**No. 1:** Genesis 25:1-18
**No. 2:** The Great Teacher Served Other People (*lr* chap. 6)
**No. 3:** Why Human Efforts to Bring Relief Cannot Succeed (*rs* p. 153 ¶2–p. 154 ¶2)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 211

**5 min:** Announcements.

**8 min:** New Congregation Handbill. Talk explaining features and use of the new handbill. It should be handed to all who show a measure of interest. Demonstrate how the handbill may be used from house to house and when making return visits.

**10 min:** Experiences Starting Bible Studies. Relate what was accomplished locally when Bible studies were offered on the selected weekend last month. Encourage all to share in offering Bible studies on this special day.

**12 min:** "Special Campaign to Advertise the Memorial!" Question-and-answer discussion. Distribute a copy of the memorial invitation to everyone in attendance and review its contents. Demonstrate how the invitation might be offered.

Song 87

## Special Campaign to Advertise the Memorial!

[1] On Thursday, April 9, 2009, worshippers of Jehovah God worldwide will gather to reflect on his greatest act of love for mankind. (Rom. 5:6-8) We keenly anticipate having millions of interested ones present with us when we commemorate Jesus' death. A special invitation to the Memorial will be distributed earth wide starting March 21.

[2] **Points to Keep in Mind:** Use to the full the illustrations, the questions, and the cited scripture on the invitation. For example, you might refer to the cover picture and say: "I wanted to invite you to commemorate with us Jesus' death, which will be observed on Thursday, April 9, 2009." Then refer to the title of the invitation and subsequent questions. Be sure to emphasize that the householder is welcome to invite his family and any others he chooses to bring along.

[3] If your congregation has a large territory, the elders may direct you to leave the invitations at not-at-homes. On the weekends, offer the magazines in addition to using the invitation. Make it your goal to invite your return visits, Bible students, relatives, schoolmates, workmates, neighbors, and other acquaintances. Last year, one sister invited 30 of her relatives, and then she periodically reminded them of the importance of the occasion. How happy she was that 25 attended, and 4 of them later accepted a Bible study!

[4] **Plan Now:** Many publishers may be able to increase their activity during March and April. If you have children or Bible students making good progress, this may be an excellent time for them to become unbaptized publishers. Now is the time to begin making arrangements to have a full share in this campaign that advertises the commemoration of the two greatest expressions of love.—John 3:16; 15:13.

1. What will Kingdom publishers be involved in worldwide starting March 21, 2009, and why?
2. What points should you keep in mind when offering the invitation?
3. How might you follow up on an invitation made earlier in the campaign?
4. What plans must we make now, and why?

**WEEK STARTING FEBRUARY 16**

Song 98

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*jd* chap. 14 ¶18-26

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Genesis 29-31

**No. 1:** Genesis 29:1-20

**No. 2:** Why We Should "Stop Being Anxious" (Matt. 6:25)

**No. 3:** Obedience Protects You (*lr* chap. 7)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 172

**5 min:** Announcements.

**15 min:** "Do All Things for the Sake of the Good News." Question-and-answer discussion.

**15 min:** Can You Auxiliary Pioneer During This Memorial Season? Enthusiastic talk by the service overseer. Review qualifications for auxiliary pioneering. Highlight the joys and blessings of auxiliary pioneering. Outline local arrangements for additional meetings for field service during March, April, and May. Interview two or three publishers who auxiliary pioneered last year. What adjustments did they make in their schedule? What blessings did they enjoy? Encourage each family to consider how one or more members of the family might be able to auxiliary pioneer during the upcoming Memorial season.

Song 151

## "Do All Things for the Sake of the Good News"

[1] The apostle Paul felt a personal obligation to declare the good news to others. (1 Cor. 9:16, 19, 23) Similarly, our concern for the eternal welfare of people motivates us to go out of our way to share the good news with them.

1. What is a Kingdom preacher willing to do for others, and why?

[2] **Preach Where and When People Can Be Found:** A good fisherman casts his line or net, not where and when it is convenient for him, but where and when the fish are most likely to be found. We too, as "fishers of men," may need to make some personal adjustments in order to find people in our territory and thereby enjoy more fully the privilege of gathering up "fish of every kind." (Matt. 4:19; 13:47) Can we use early evening hours to contact people at their homes or the early morning hours to do street witnessing? Paul's goal was "to bear thorough witness to the good news," and he took advantage of appropriate opportunities to do so.—Acts 17:17; 20:20, 24.

[3] **Adapt Your Presentation to Meet the Need:** Fishermen frequently adjust their methods in order to catch a particular type of fish. How can we present the Kingdom good news in an appealing manner to people in our territory? We must tactfully introduce a subject that is of concern to people in general and then listen carefully to their expressions regarding the matter. (Jas. 1:19) We might ask a viewpoint question to draw them out. (Prov. 20:5) In this way we will be able to adapt our presentation of the good news in a way that touches their lives personally. Paul became "all things to people of all sorts." (1 Cor. 9:22) Adaptability is a key to reaching the hearts of people.

[4] What a joy it is to share with people the "good news of something better"! (Isa. 52:7) May we "do all things for the sake of the good news" in order to reach as many as possible.—1 Cor. 9:23.

2. When preaching, what adjustments are we willing to make, and why?

3, 4. While we are in the ministry, in what ways can we adapt, and with what results?

© 2009 Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. All rights reserved. *Our Kingdom Ministry* (ISSN 1067-7259) is published monthly by Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses; C. I. Woody, President; W. H. Nonkes, Secretary-Treasurer; 2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237. Periodicals Postage Paid at Brooklyn, NY, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *Our Kingdom Ministry*, 1000 Red Mills Road, **Wallkill, NY 12589-3299.** Printed in U.S.A.

**WEEK STARTING FEBRUARY 23**

Song 22

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 1 ¶1-9, prologue

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Genesis 32-35

Theocratic Ministry School Review

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 1

**5 min:** Announcements. Call attention to the literature offer for March.

**10 min:** Prepare to Offer the March 1 *Watchtower* and the March *Awake!* After giving a brief overview of the magazines, ask the audience which articles may appeal to people in the territory and why. Invite the audience to relate a question that they would use to start a conversation, then a scripture that they would read before offering the magazines. Conclude by demonstrating how each magazine might be offered.

**10 min:** Local needs.

**10 min:** Are You Using *Examining the Scriptures Daily?* Talk and audience discussion based on the foreword of *Examining the Scriptures Daily—2009.* Discuss the value of taking time each day to review the Scripture text and comments. Invite audience to comment on their routine for considering the text and how they have benefited.

Song 160

## Theocratic Ministry School Review

The following questions will be considered at the Theocratic Ministry School during the week beginning February 23, 2009. The school overseer will conduct a 20-minute review based on material covered in assignments for the weeks of January 5 through February 23, 2009.

1. How could God produce light on the first day if the luminaries were not made until the fourth day? (Gen. 1: 3, 16) [*w04* 1/1 p. 28 par. 5]
2. What is suggested by the fact that Jehovah did not tell Noah to subdue the earth as he had told perfect Adam? (Gen. 9:1) [*it*-2 p. 1095 par. 6]
3. On what date did the Abrahamic Covenant go into effect, and how long does it last? (Gen. 12:1-4) [*w04* 1/15 p. 26 par. 4; *w01* 8/15 p. 17 par. 13]
4. What proves that Nimrod and those who followed his lead failed in their goal to make 'a celebrated name for themselves'? (Gen. 11:4) [*w98* 3/15 p. 25]
5. Since Lot is called a "righteous" man at 2 Peter 2:7, why might he have offered his daughters to the perverted mob? (Gen. 19:8) [*w05* 2/1 p. 26 pars. 15-16; *w04* 1/15 p. 27 par. 3]
6. Since godly husbands should care for their own, how could Abraham send Hagar and Ishmael into the wilderness? (Gen. 21:10-21; 1 Tim. 5:8) [*w88* 2/15 p. 31]
7. What lesson can we learn from Eliezer's effort to do things Jehovah's way in finding a wife for Isaac? (Gen. 24:14, 15, 17-19, 26, 27) [*w97* 1/1 p. 31 par. 2]
8. What was the meaning of Jacob's dream in which he saw angels 'ascending and descending on a ladder'? (Gen. 28:10-13) [*w03* 10/15 p. 29 par. 1; *it*-2 p. 189]
9. Why was Rachel so interested in obtaining the mandrakes of Leah's son? (Gen. 30:14, 15) [*w04* 1/15 p. 28 par. 7]
10. How is Jacob's example a good one in resolving personal disputes? (Gen. 33:3, 4) [*g82* 2/22 p. 19 pars. 8-10]

## WEEK STARTING MARCH 2

Song 59

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 1 ¶10-18, box on p. 13

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Genesis 36-39

**No. 1:** Genesis 39:1-16

**No. 2:** Others Are Higher Than We Are (*lr* chap. 8)

**No. 3:** God's Kingdom—The Only Answer to Mankind's Real Needs (*rs* p. 154 ¶3–p. 155 ¶1)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 94

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Making Known God's Name. Enthusiastic talk based on the *Ministry School* book, pages 273-274.

**10 min:** Answering Questions About Blood Transfusions. Talk and audience discussion based on the *Reasoning* book, pages 74-76. Invite a pioneer to demonstrate how he or she might use the *Reasoning* book to answer a householder's question regarding blood.

**10 min:** The Offer for March. Briefly review the contents of the publication being offered. Ask audience what question and scripture they plan to use to introduce the offer? Have one or two presentations demonstrated.

Song 96

## Announcements

■ Literature offer for **February:** Offer one of the following, as available: *Is There a Creator Who Cares About You?*, *The Bible—God's Word or Man's?*, or *The Secret of Family Happiness*. **March:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Make a diligent effort to start Bible studies. **April and May:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. When making return visits on interested people, including those who attend the Memorial or other theocratic events but who are not actively associated with the congregation, concentrate on starting studies using the *Bible Teach* book.

■ The special public talk for the 2009 Memorial season will be entitled "Is There a True Religion From God's Standpoint?" See the related announcement in the September 2008 *Our Kingdom Ministry*.

■ In the islands of Micronesia, there is a special need for qualified elders to take the lead in the congregations. (Acts 16:9, 10) Elders, such as those who are retired from their secular employment, are encouraged to consider whether their circumstances allow them to move to one of these islands to assist. Any who may be in a position to do so should follow the steps outlined in the *Organized* book, pages 111-112, and write to the Guam branch office for further information. (Mal. 3:10; Luke 14:28) The address for the Guam branch office is Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, 143 Jehovah Street, Barrigada, GU 96913.

### Field Service Highlights

We are happy to report two new peaks in the United States in October! The total of 118,066 regular pioneers reporting is an increase of 1,983 over the previous peak of 116,083 set in September 2008. Also, the total of 637,913 Bible studies conducted is an increase of 9,214 over the previous peak of 628,699 set in May 2008.

## What to Say About the Magazines

### THE WATCHTOWER® February 1

"Do you think God listens to all prayers? [Allow for response.] Notice what Jesus said on the subject. [Read Matthew 6:7.] This interesting article gives the Bible's answer to four often-asked questions about prayer." Feature the article that begins on page 16.

### Awake!® February

"Many believe that our destiny in life has already been determined. What do you think? [Allow for response.] According to this verse, we have a choice. [Read Deuteronomy 30:19.] This article comments on what the Bible says about predestination." Feature the article that begins on page 12.

### THE WATCHTOWER® March 1

"Do you think that everything that happens in life has been decided in advance? [Allow for response.] Notice what the Bible says about this. [Read Ecclesiastes 9:11.] This magazine explains that, while God has predetermined a bright future for the earth, he allows each of us to choose our own course in life."

### Awake!® March

"Many today are suffering some anxiety over money, especially during these difficult economic times. Would you agree? [Allow for response.] Notice this balanced advice. [Read 1 Timothy 6:8, 10.] This magazine outlines some Bible principles to help us manage our finances in a way that brings peace of mind."

**WEEK STARTING MARCH 9**

Song 202

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 2 ¶1-11

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Genesis 40-42
**No. 1:** Genesis 40:1-15
**No. 2:** We Need to Resist Temptations (*lr* chap. 9)
**No. 3:** Beware of an Independent Spirit!

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 41

**5 min:** Announcements. Invite publishers in the audience to relate one or two brief experiences that demonstrate how the magazines were presented and with what results.

**15 min:** When Others Demand an Explanation. Talk and audience discussion based on the subheading beginning on page 177 of the *Ministry School* book. Demonstrate how a publisher might answer a workmate or a schoolmate who asks a question about our beliefs. The publisher calmly answers with "a mild temper and deep respect."—1 Pet. 3:15.

**15 min:** "Be Thoroughly Prepared for the Memorial." Talk and audience participation. Outline local arrangements for the Memorial.

Song 192

## Be Thoroughly Prepared for the Memorial

What a joy and a privilege it is for followers of the Christ to prepare thoroughly for the night when we commemorate the death of Jesus Christ! (Luke 22:19) What practical steps should be taken to prepare for the Memorial?

- **Time and Location:** Everyone should clearly understand the hour and the exact location that the Memorial will be held. If more than one congregation will be meeting at the Kingdom Hall, it is important to arrive on time and depart in an orderly fashion, since the time allotted between meetings is limited. Efforts should be made to avoid unnecessary congestion in the entryway, in the lobby, on the public sidewalks, and in the parking lot.
- **Invitations:** Do all the publishers have their supply of invitations, and are they familiar with the contents? Have you rehearsed how you will present this invitation? To whom will you give an invitation? Efforts should be made so that all invitations are placed.
- **Transportation:** Some interested ones as well as a number of brothers and sisters may need transportation or other personal assistance. What arrangements have been made to care for their needs?
- **Emblems:** Make sure that the emblems will not be passed until after sundown. Arrangements should be made to serve any of the anointed who are infirm and unable to be present. The appropriate type of bread and wine should be obtained and made ready. —See the February 15, 2003, *Watchtower,* pages 14-15, paragraphs 14, 17.
- **Kingdom Hall:** The hall should be thoroughly cleaned ahead of time. Plates, wine cups or wineglasses, and a suitable table and tablecloth should be brought to the hall and put in place in advance. If another meeting place is used, ensure that there will be a suitable sound system so that all in attendance will be able to hear the speaker. Attendants and servers should be selected and instructed in advance about their duties, the proper procedure to be followed, and the need for dignified dress and grooming.

On this most important occasion, the Memorial of the death of Jesus Christ, we want to be thoroughly prepared individually and as a congregation. Certainly, Jehovah's rich blessing will be upon all who demonstrate heartfelt appreciation for all that Jehovah has provided for mankind through the sacrifice of his beloved Son, Jesus Christ.

## WEEK STARTING MARCH 16

Song 106

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 2 ¶12-21, box on p. 24

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Genesis 43-46
**No. 1:** Genesis 44:1-17
**No. 2:** Jesus' Power Over the Demons (*lr* chap. 10)
**No. 3:** Bible Prophecies Have Proved Completely Reliable (*rs* p. 155 ¶2-5)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 130

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Jehovah Identified by His Name. Enthusiastic talk based on the *Ministry School* book, page 274, paragraphs 2-5.

**10 min:** Make Good Use of the *2009 Yearbook*. Talk and audience discussion. Discuss "A Letter From the Governing Body" on page 3 of the *Yearbook*. Arrange in advance for publishers to relate a few brief experiences from the *Yearbook* that have been encouraging to them. Invite audience to comment on outstanding aspects of the worldwide report. Conclude by encouraging all to complete their reading of the *Yearbook*.

**10 min:** "How to Use the *'God's Love'* Book to Conduct Bible Studies." Limit introductory comments to less than a minute, and follow with a question-and-answer discussion.

Song 97

## How to Use the *"God's Love"* Book to Conduct Bible Studies

1 How thrilled we were at our "Guided by God's Spirit" District Convention to receive the new book *"Keep Yourselves in God's Love"*! As announced, this publication is designed to help us know and love Jehovah's standards of conduct and not for teaching basic Bible doctrines. We will not be offering this book from door to door.

1. What is the purpose of the *"God's Love"* book?

2 This book will serve as the second publication to be studied with Bible students after completing the *Bible Teach* book. Keep in mind that people have different rates of spiritual growth. Each study should be conducted at a pace comfortable to the student. Make sure that the material considered is clearly understood. In most cases, this book should not be used to start Bible studies with people who may have already studied several books in the past but who are not attending congregation meetings and clearly are not interested in conforming their lives to the Bible truths they were taught.

3 If you are presently conducting a study in the *Worship God* book and are in the last few chapters, you may decide to complete that publication and to encourage the student to read the *"God's Love"* book on his own. Otherwise, it would be best to transfer to the new book and start from the beginning. As with the *Bible Teach* book, discussion of the topics in the appendix is optional.

4 If a student gets baptized before completing both books, then the study should continue until the *"God's Love"* book is finished. Even though the student is baptized, you may report the time, the return visit, and the study. A publisher who accompanies you and participates in the study may also count the time.

5 If you are assigned by a member of the Congregation Service Committee to conduct a Bible study with someone who has become inactive in the preaching work, you may be asked to consider specific chapters in the *"God's Love"* book. Such studies need not be conducted for a prolonged period of time. What a fine provision we have in this new book, which has been designed to help us remain "in God's love"!—Jude 21.

2. How will this publication be used, and with whom?
3. What should we do if we are currently conducting a study in the *Worship God* book?
4. What should we do if our student gets baptized before completing the *Bible Teach* and *"God's Love"* books?
5. How may the *"God's Love"* book be used to assist publishers who have not shared in the ministry for some time?

© 2009 Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. All rights reserved. *Our Kingdom Ministry* (ISSN 1067-7259) is published monthly by Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses; C. I. Woody, President; W. H. Nonkes, Secretary-Treasurer; 2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237. Periodicals Postage Paid at Brooklyn, NY, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *Our Kingdom Ministry*, 1000 Red Mills Road, **Wallkill, NY 12589-3299.** Printed in U.S.A.

## WEEK STARTING MARCH 23

Song 76

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 3 ¶1-7, box on p. 29

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Genesis 47-50
**No. 1:** Genesis 48:1-16
**No. 2:** Should We Fear the Devil?
**No. 3:** Help From God's Angels (*lr* chap. 11)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 118

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Prepare to Offer the April 1 *Watchtower* and the April *Awake!* Audience discussion. After giving a brief overview of the magazines, ask the audience which articles they plan to feature in the territory and why. What questions and scriptures could be used to introduce the articles? Demonstrate how each magazine might be offered. In one of the demonstrations, show how a study might be started on the return visit.

**10 min:** Local needs.

**10 min:** Demonstrate Respect by Listening Attentively and Considering the Householder's Viewpoint. Talk and audience discussion based on the *Ministry School* book, pages 186-187. Demonstrate application of the counsel therein provided. Afterward, invite the audience to comment on why the publisher's approach was effective.

Song 89

## WEEK STARTING MARCH 30

Song 217

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 3 ¶8-15, box on p. 30

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Exodus 1-6
**No. 1:** Exodus 1:1-19
**No. 2:** Jesus Teaches Us to Pray (*lr* chap. 12)
**No. 3:** Is Healing Today Done by God's Spirit? (*rs* pp. 156-157 ¶3)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 128

**5 min:** Announcements. Include any final announcements regarding the Memorial.

**15 min:** Be Prepared to Help Interested Ones Who Attend the Memorial. Talk by the service overseer reminding publishers of their role in assisting Bible students, inactive publishers, and others who attend the Memorial, such as acquaintances and family members. (See March 2008 *Our Kingdom Ministry,* page 4.) Include a brief demonstration showing how a Bible study may be started with an interested person who was present. Remind all of the Memorial Bible reading, which is to begin on Sunday, April 5. Practical suggestions may be provided on how this may be done.

**15 min:** *"The Bible—A Book of Fact and Prophecy."* Limit introductory comments to less than a minute, and follow with a question-and-answer discussion.

Song 213

## *The Bible—A Book of Fact and Prophecy*

*Mankind's Oldest Modern Book* is the first of three separate video presentations found on the DVD *The Bible—A Book of Fact and Prophecy.* After watching this video, answer the following questions:

**(1)** In what ways does the Bible agree with modern science? **(2)** How can we be sure that our modern Bibles accurately represent the original writings? **(3)** What is an outstanding textual feature of ancient Bible manuscripts? **(4)** In what ways did John Wycliffe, Johannes Gutenberg, William Tyndale, John Hus, Martin Luther, Casiodoro de Reina, and Charles Taze Russell contribute to the spreading of God's Word around the world, and how did the church fiercely oppose the Bible? **(5)** How has the Bible's practical counsel helped people deal with problems of health (Ps. 34:8), compulsive gambling (1 Tim. 6:9, 10), marital separation and infidelity (1 Cor. 13:4, 5; Eph. 5:28-33), and preoccupation with material riches (Matt. 16:26)? **(6)** What evidence is there that applying Scriptural principles can overcome national, ethnic, and racial hatred (Luke 10:27)? **(7)** In what ways has adhering to Bible principles brought *you* greater happiness? **(8)** How can you use this video to help others?—See the February 2006 *Our Kingdom Ministry,* page 8.

## WEEK STARTING APRIL 6

Song 37

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 3 ¶16-21

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Exodus 7-10

**No. 1:** Exodus 9:1-19

**No. 2:** Those Who Became Jesus' Disciples (*lr* chap. 13)

**No. 3:** How Can We Harmonize Galatians 6:2 With Galatians 6:5?

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 52

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** How to Give Sound Arguments. Enthusiastic talk and audience discussion based on the *Ministry School* book, pages 255-257.

**20 min:** *Youths—What Will You Do With Your Life?* Elder conducts audience discussion of the *Your Life* tract. Warmly commend baptized youths who are seeking to put Kingdom interests first. Briefly interview someone who has pursued full-time service from youth. 'What influenced your decision to do so? What blessings have you enjoyed?'

Song 72

## Announcements

■ Literature offer for **March:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Make a diligent effort to start Bible studies. **April and May:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. When making return visits on interested people, including those who attend the Memorial or other theocratic events but who are not actively associated with the congregation, concentrate on starting studies using the *Bible Teach* book. **June:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* If householders already have the book, publishers may offer any 192-page book printed on paper that discolors or any book published prior to 1992, with the exception of *Creation, Greatest Man, Mankind's Search for God,* and *Young People Ask.*

■ New issues of *The Watchtower* and *Awake!* are to be distributed as soon as they are received. That will allow publishers to become familiar with the contents before offering the magazines in field service.

■ Immediately after the Memorial, the total attendance and number of partakers should be submitted to the branch office using the jw.org Web site. If this is not possible, a letter may be sent. When multiple congregations meet together, only one congregation should submit the total attendance figure.

### Field Service Highlights

**United States:** November saw 50,940 auxiliary pioneers respond to the special campaign distribution of the tract *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* This was a 55.1 percent increase over the same month last year! Also, the total of 19,478,064 hours devoted to the ministry was an increase of 10.6 percent over the same period last year.

## What to Say About the Magazines

### THE WATCHTOWER® March 1

"It can be a real challenge to do the right thing when people pressure us to do otherwise. What do you think can help us to avoid caving in? [Allow for response. Then read Proverbs 29:25.] This helpful article outlines five reasons to fear displeasing God rather than man." Feature the article that begins on page 12.

### Awake!® March

"All of us appreciate having good friends. What qualities do you value in a friend? [Allow for response.] Notice this description in the Bible. [Read Proverbs 17:17.] This article contains suggestions for choosing good friends and for being a good friend to others." Feature the article that begins on page 18.

### THE WATCHTOWER® April 1

"I would like to have your opinion on this statement of Jesus. [Read John 3:3.] What do you think it means to be born again? [Allow for response.] Having an accurate understanding of Jesus' comments will affect our life and our expectations for the future. This magazine explains why."

### Awake!® April

"Many schoolchildren seem to be under stress. Do you think things have changed since their parents' day? [Allow for response.] Undue stress can have bad effects. [Read Ecclesiastes 7:7a.] This magazine discusses how adults can help young ones to cope."

**WEEK STARTING APRIL 13**

Song 38

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* app. from subheading on p. 207 to subheading on p. 209

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Exodus 11-14

**No. 1:** Exodus 12:21-36

**No. 2:** Why We Should Forgive (*lr* chap. 14)

**No. 3:** Difference Between Cures of Jesus and His Apostles and Those of Today (*rs* p. 157 ¶4–p. 158 ¶2)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 125

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Review progress of special day for offering Bible studies. Relate one or two local experiences.

**10 min:** Be Tactful When Witnessing. Audience discussion based on information under subheading at bottom of page 197 of the *Ministry School* book. Demonstrate how a publisher might respond when a householder raises a common objection.

**10 min:** "Preaching Keeps Us Spiritually Strong." Question-and-answer discussion.

Song 5

## Preaching Keeps Us Spiritually Strong

1 Having an active share in the preaching work can strengthen us spiritually and increase our happiness. Of course, we engage in the ministry primarily to please Jehovah. However, by obeying the command to "preach the word," we receive Jehovah's blessings and also benefit ourselves in other ways. (2 Tim. 4:2; Isa. 48:17, 18) Just how can preaching strengthen us and make us happy?

1. What benefit does the preaching work give us?

2 **We Are Strengthened and Blessed:** Preaching encourages us to focus on Kingdom blessings rather than present troubles. (2 Cor. 4:18) Explaining Bible teachings strengthens our faith in Jehovah's promises and builds our appreciation for the truth. (Isa. 65:13, 14) As we help others to grow spiritually so as to be "no part of the world," we strengthen our own stand of separateness from the world.—John 17: 14, 16; Rom. 12:2.

3 Participating in the ministry helps us to cultivate Christian qualities. For example, endeavoring to "become all things to people of all sorts" assists us to develop greater humility. (1 Cor. 9:19-23) As we talk to those who are "skinned and thrown about like sheep without a shepherd," we are inclined to learn sympathy and empathy. (Matt. 9:36) We learn endurance when we persevere despite apathy or opposition. Our joy is increased by giving of ourselves in behalf of others.—Acts 20:35.

4 What a blessing to have a ministry that gives praise to the only One deserving of our worship! The ministry strengthens us. It brings abundant blessings to those who are completely absorbed in 'bearing thorough witness to the good news.'—Acts 20:24.

2. In what ways does the ministry strengthen us?
3. How does our ministry help us cultivate Christian qualities?
4. How do you feel about your ministry?

## WEEK STARTING APRIL 20

Song 8

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 4 ¶1-11

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Exodus 15-18
**No. 1:** Exodus 15:1-19
**No. 2:** What Is Involved in Keeping Clear of False Worship?
**No. 3:** A Lesson on Being Kind (*lr* chap. 15)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 49

***5* min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Evidence of the Bible's Inspiration. Audience discussion based on the *Reasoning* book, pages 60-64.

**10 min:** Prepare to Offer the May 1 *Watchtower* and the May *Awake!* Ask the audience which articles may be most appealing locally and why. Demonstrate how each magazine might be offered in the local territory. In one of the demonstrations, show how a study might be started on the return visit.—See *km* 8/07 p. 3.

**10 min:** "Teach Those With Limited Reading Skills." When considering paragraph 3, have a brief demonstration of a pioneer making good use of a picture in the study publication.

Song 170

## Teach Those With Limited Reading Skills

[1] While engaging in our ministry, we occasionally encounter the challenge of teaching the truth to people who have difficulty reading. What can we do?

[2] **Respect Their Dignity:** It is a person's heart condition, not his secular education, that matters to Jehovah. (1 Sam. 16:7; Prov. 21:2) Therefore, we do not look down on those with limited reading ability. Such ones will be more likely to accept our help when we demonstrate respect and patience. (1 Pet. 3:15) That may involve not insisting that the person read a text or a paragraph. As a person progresses in learning precious Bible truths, he may become more eager to improve his reading ability so as to experience the joy of reading God's Word "in an undertone day and night."—Ps. 1:2, 3.

[3] **Teaching Methods on Bible Studies:** Pictures are an excellent teaching and memory aid. You might ask the student his observation about a picture in the publication you are using. Then use specific questions to help him understand what the picture teaches. Use scriptures that teach certain points of the picture. The pictures may also be used to review the lesson. Do not cover too much material at one time. Emphasize the theme and the main points of the lesson, and avoid introducing outside material. Read the scriptures directly from the Bible, and use questions to make sure the student understands what was read. This may increase his desire to improve his reading skills so as to search for more Bible truths on his own.

[4] **Aids to Improve Reading:** People with limited reading skills or who have had little opportunity to learn to read fluently may understand and retain information very well. You might encourage such ones to use available audio recordings of our publications. Listening closely to the reader while following along in the printed copy, even repeating the words in an undertone, will help the person to improve in his reading skills. He may also find the brochure *Apply Yourself to Reading and Writing* to be helpful. In some areas, the elders may also arrange reading classes in the congregation. These practical suggestions may assist us in helping those with limited reading skills to understand "the holy writings," which are able to make them wise for salvation.—2 Tim. 3:15.

1. What challenge may we encounter in the ministry?
2. How and why do we accord dignity to those with limited reading skills?
3. What teaching methods may be used to teach those with limited reading ability?
4. How may we help our student to improve his reading ability?

© 2009 Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. All rights reserved. *Our Kingdom Ministry* (ISSN 1067-7259) is published monthly by Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses; C. I. Woody, President; W. H. Nonkes, Secretary-Treasurer; 2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237. Periodicals Postage Paid at Brooklyn, NY, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *Our Kingdom Ministry*, 1000 Red Mills Road, **Wallkill, NY 12589-3299.** Printed in U.S.A.

**WEEK STARTING APRIL 27**

Song 122

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 4 ¶12-21, box on p. 42

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Exodus 19-22

Theocratic Ministry School Review

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 195

***5* min:** Announcements.

***5* min:** Review Question Box.

***25* min:** "Are You Prepared for a Spiritual Banquet?" To be handled by the congregation secretary. Mention the convention to which the congregation is assigned. Review "District Convention Reminders." With paragraph 7, take a moment to discuss reminders from the March 6, 2008, letter and the brochure *Dress and Grooming for Visitors Touring Bethel,* since the principles therein apply.

Song 55

## Theocratic Ministry School Review

The following questions will be considered at the Theocratic Ministry School during the week beginning April 27, 2009. The school overseer will conduct a 20-minute review based on material covered in assignments for the weeks of March 2 through April 27, 2009.

1. How did Joseph deal with a *daily* temptation that arose around him? (Gen. 39:7-12) [*lv* p. 105 par. 18–p. 106 par. 20]
2. What Biblical light is there regarding birthday celebrations? (Gen. 40:20-22) [*lv* p. 150 par. 9–p. 151 par. 11]
3. How is Joseph an excellent example in forgiving those who have sinned against us? (Gen. 45:4, 5) [*w99* 1/1 p. 31 pars. 2-3]
4. What was the effect of Joseph's saying: "You must take my bones up out of here"? (Gen. 50:25) [*w07* 6/1 p. 28 par. 10]
5. What can give us confidence when we receive a challenging assignment? (Ex. 4:10, 13) [*w04* 3/15 p. 25 par. 4]
6. What resulted from the way Jehovah dealt with Pharaoh, and how should those events affect us? (Ex. 9:13-16) [*w05* 5/15 p. 21 par. 8]
7. What meaning does Exodus 14:30, 31 have for our day? [*w04* 3/15 p. 26 par. 5]
8. As can be seen from Exodus 16:1-3, what dangers are there in complaining? [*w93* 3/15 p. 20 par. 2–p. 21 par. 2]
9. In accord with the terms of the Law Covenant stated at Exodus 19:5, 6, to what extent could it be said that Israel was "a kingdom of priests and a holy nation"? [*w95* 7/1 p. 16 par. 8]
10. In what way does the tenth commandment regarding covetousness transcend man-made laws? (Ex. 20:17) [*w06* 6/15 p. 23-24 par. 16]

## QUESTION BOX

**■ Is it appropriate for congregations or individuals to use the logos of legal corporations used by Jehovah's Witnesses?**

A logo is a name, symbol, or trademark designed for easy and definite recognition. The Watch Tower logo is representative of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania and other corporations used by the organization. The Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses uses an open Bible in its letterhead. Other corporations used by Jehovah's Witnesses have different logos.

Congregations or individuals should not use logos or names of the organization's legal entities, or variations thereof, on their Kingdom Halls, signs, letterhead, personal objects, and so forth. Such use of the organization's logos may cause confusion for public officials, publishers, and others about the legal affiliation of the congregation with the organization's legal entities. Similarly, written correspondence could be misinterpreted as being approved or sent from the world headquarters or the branch office.

The Watch Tower logo, or a variation of it, should not be used in future Kingdom Hall projects even if the Kingdom Hall is owned by a Watch Tower entity. Congregations with existing Kingdom Halls that bear a logo are not required to make immediate changes to signs or designs, since such changes may involve major alterations and much time, effort, and expense. However, consideration should be given to making a change if it would be minor and would not require extensive work. Otherwise it can be made when the building or sign is scheduled for renovation.

## Are You Prepared for a Spiritual Banquet?

[1] A banquet requires much preparation. Food items have to be obtained, tastefully prepared, and then presented. The serving of the meal needs to be organized. In addition, the place where the meal will be eaten must be made ready. Guests must also prepare, especially if they will travel some distance to get there. Though much work is involved, enjoying a delicious, nourishing meal with friends and family makes it all worthwhile. Soon Jehovah's Witnesses earth wide will come together in groups large and small to enjoy a much anticipated spiritual feast—the "Keep on the Watch!" District Convention. Much work has already gone into preparing the program and getting things ready. We have all been invited. In order to be in attendance and gain the most benefit, we too must prepare personally. —Prov. 21:5.

[2] **Get the Most Benefit:** Have you finalized your plans so that you can be present at each course of this spiritual banquet? If necessary, speak with your employer to inform him that you will be attending all sessions of your convention, including the first day. Have you finalized arrangements for transportation and lodging? Elders should verify that the elderly and infirm as well as others who may need assistance have been cared for.—Jer. 23:4; Gal. 6:10.

[3] Some areas will enjoy international

1. What type of preparation is involved for a banquet?

2. Being present for each course of our spiritual banquet requires what?

3. Why should we not attend an international convention to which we were not invited?

conventions. Keep in mind that specific congregations and foreign delegates have been invited to these events. In making these arrangements, the branch office has carefully calculated how many to invite, considering the number of seats and hotel rooms available. Overcrowding may occur if publishers attend an international convention to which they have not been invited.

[4] Prepare to arrive at the convention early enough each day to find a seat *before* the program begins. Use a few minutes before the session begins to look over the printed program. This will help you to prepare your heart for the information to be presented. (Ezra 7:10) When the session chairman introduces a musical interlude, enjoy listening to it and then be ready to share in the opening song and prayer.

[5] If family members sit together during the convention, parents will be able to make sure that their children are listening closely to the program. (Deut. 31:12) All are encouraged to follow along in their Bible as scriptures are read. Taking brief notes may help you to pay close attention. Later, your notes will help you recall the main points of the talks. Resist the temptation to talk needlessly during the session or to leave your seat. If you have a cell phone, do not allow it to distract you or others during the program. After each day's sessions, why not discuss with others what you appreciated from the program?

[6] At the district convention, we have the opportunity to enjoy a unique bond with our brothers and sisters that is not experienced in the world. (Ps. 133:1-3; Mark 10: 29, 30) Why not make it a point to introduce yourself to those sitting near you and converse with them during the lunch break? This is one of the advantages of bringing a light lunch and remaining at the convention facility rather than going outside to a restaurant. Make sure not to miss out on such an opportunity for an interchange of encouragement.—Rom. 1: 11, 12.

[7] **Dress:** It is noteworthy that Jehovah commanded the Israelites to make fringed edges on the skirts of their garments, with a blue string above the fringe. (Num. 15:37-41) This was a visual reminder that they were a people set apart to worship Jehovah. Today, our dignified, modest dress worn when at the convention sets us apart from the world. It serves as a powerful witness to onlookers even when we may go out to eat after the program. Therefore, give careful advance thought to the clothing you will wear.

[8] **Give a Witness:** With a little forethought, we may be able to witness to people while in the convention city. One brother who went to a restaurant with his wife after the program simply pointed to his convention badge and asked the waiter: "Have you seen many people wearing these badges?" The waiter said that he had noticed them and wondered what they were about. This led to a conversation, and the brother invited the waiter to the convention.

[9] Though our brothers will present all the talks, interviews, and demonstrations, it is our heavenly Father, Jehovah, who is the loving Provider of this yearly spiritual banquet. (Isa. 65:13, 14) We demonstrate appreciation to our Host by being present each day and savoring every morsel of spiritual food that is served. Have you finalized your preparations to do so?

4. What reminders will help us to be ready for the start of the program each day?
5. How may our family get the most benefit from the program?
6. What is an outstanding aspect of our conventions, and how may we enjoy it to the full?
7. What preparations should we make regarding the clothing we will wear?
8. How may we witness to others while at the convention city?
9. How can we demonstrate appreciation to our Host, Jehovah?

## District Convention Reminders

■ **Program Times:** The program will begin at 9:20 a.m. all three days. The doors will open at 8:00 a.m. When the introductory music is announced, all of us should be at our seats so that the program can begin in a dignified manner. The program will conclude at 4:55 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. For international conventions, the program for Thursday will begin at 1:20 p.m. and conclude at 4:45 p.m.

■ **Parking:** At all convention sites where we control the parking, the spaces will be made available to attendees at no charge on a first-come, first-served basis. Only persons who have a state-approved disabled license plate or placard will be allowed to park in the area reserved for the disabled. Since parking space is usually limited, carpooling should be done to the extent possible.

■ **Seat Saving:** Seats may be saved only for those traveling with you in the same vehicle or living with you in the same home.

■ **Noon Meal:** Please bring a lunch rather than leave the convention site to obtain a meal during the noon break. A small cooler that can be placed under a seat may be used. Large family-size picnic coolers and glass containers are not permitted in the convention facility.

■ **Donations:** We can show our appreciation for the convention arrangements by making voluntary contributions to the worldwide work at our Kingdom Hall or at the convention. Any checks contributed at the convention should be made payable to "Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses."

■ **Accidents and Emergencies:** Emergency-response services receive many cell-phone calls over minor matters. If a medical emergency arises at the convention site, please contact a nearby attendant, who will immediately notify First Aid so that our qualified first-aid personnel on-site can assess the seriousness of the situation and render assistance. If it is necessary, our first-aid personnel will call 911.

■ **Footwear:** Each year a number of injuries occur that are related to footwear. It is best to choose modest, well-fitting shoes that will allow one to walk safely on stairs, gratings, and so forth.

■ **Hearing Impaired:** The program will be broadcast in the auditorium on an FM radio frequency. To use this provision, you will need to bring a small battery-operated FM receiver with earphones.

■ **Recording:** Recording devices should not be connected to the facility's electric or sound system and may only be used in a way that does not disturb others.

■ **Baby Strollers and Lawn Chairs:** Baby strollers and lawn chairs should not be brought to the convention site. However, child-safety seats that can be secured in a seat next to the parents are acceptable.

■ **Fragrances:** Most conventions take place in enclosed areas with mechanical ventilation. Therefore, it would be a kindness for us to limit the use of strong fragrances, colognes,

and perfumes that may cause reactions in persons with respiratory or related problems.—1 Cor. 10:24.

■ **Follow-Up Forms:** A *Please Follow Up* (S-43) form should be used to provide information regarding any interest from informal witnessing during the convention. Publishers should bring one or two follow-up forms to the convention. Completed forms may be submitted to the Book Room for handling or to your congregation secretary upon your return.—See the February 2005 *Our Kingdom Ministry*, p. 6.

■ **Restaurants:** Honor Jehovah's name by your fine conduct at restaurants. In many places, it is customary to leave a 15 to 20 percent tip, depending on the service.

■ **Hotels:** (1) Please do not reserve more rooms than you will actually use, and do not have more people stay in your room than what is allowed. (2) If you must cancel your reservation, notify the hotel immediately. (3) Take a luggage cart only when you are ready to use it, and return it immediately so that others may use it. (4) Do not cook in rooms where cooking is not permitted. (5) Leave a tip for the housekeeper each day. (6) Do not abuse any complimentary breakfast, coffee, or ice provisions that are made available for guests to use while they are at the hotel. (7) Display the fruitage of the spirit in dealing with the hotel staff at all times. They are caring for a large number of guests and appreciate our kindness, patience, and reasonableness. (8) The room rate shown on the *Recommended Lodging List* is the full price per day, excluding tax. If you are overcharged or billed for things you did not request or use, refuse these charges and inform the Rooming Department at the convention as soon as possible. (9) If a problem arises with your hotel room, be sure to inform the Rooming Department while at the convention.

## Use Tracts on These Occasions:

- When householders decline the offer
- When householders are busy
- Occasionally at not-at-homes
- For informal witnessing
- To start a conversation
- When training children to preach
- When showing your Bible students how they may witness to their friends
- To start a Bible study

## WEEK STARTING MAY 4

Song 91

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 4, boxes on pp. 46-49

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Exodus 23-26
**No. 1:** Exodus 24:1-18
**No. 2:** What Is Truly Important? (*lr* chap. 16)
**No. 3:** How True Christians Are Identified Today (*rs* p. 158 ¶3–p. 159 ¶1)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 83

**5 min:** Announcements.

**5 min:** "Use Tracts on These Occasions." Encourage brothers to be prepared to offer tracts as opportunities arise.

**10 min:** Local needs.

**15 min:** The Value of Showing Personal Interest. Audience discussion based on Matthew 8:2, 3 and Luke 7:11-15. Why do people listen to us more readily when we show sincere personal interest? How can we learn about the householder's interests and concerns? How might personal interest be shown when meeting an elderly person, a teenager, a college student, a parent, or someone who is ill or grieving?

Song 223

## Announcements

■ Literature offer for **April and May:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. When making return visits on interested people, including those who attend the Memorial or other theocratic events but who are not actively associated with the congregation, concentrate on starting studies using the *Bible Teach* book. **June:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* If householders already have the book, publishers may offer any 192-page book published prior to 1992. **July:** Any 32-page brochures that are in stock except *How Can Blood Save Your Life?, Jehovah's Witnesses and Education,* and *Jehovah's Witnesses—Who Are They? What Do They Believe?*

■ A concerted effort will be made to advertise the 2009 district and international conventions to be held worldwide. Publishers will have the opportunity to distribute a special handbill in their territory. The campaign should be held during the three weeks prior to the congregation's assigned convention.

■ Lapel badge cards will be supplied to all publishers via the congregation. International convention delegates will use the same lapel badge card.

### Field Service Highlights

We are happy to report a new peak in the United States for December! The total of 119,108 regular pioneers reporting is an increase of 1,042 over the previous peak in October 2008. We are also pleased to report a new peak of 213 publishers in the Turks and Caicos Islands for December.

## What to Say About the Magazines

### The Watchtower® April 1

"Some people believe our future is determined by fate, while others think we choose our destiny. What do you think? [Allow for response.] Notice this interesting statement. [Read Ecclesiastes 9:11.] This article discusses the Bible's answer to the question, 'Are we predestined?' " Feature the article on page 26.

### Awake!® April

"Many marriages end in divorce because of unfaithfulness. Do you think applying this verse would help marriages last? [Read Matthew 5:28. Then allow for response.] This article uses the Bible to help couples avoid the snare of infidelity." Feature the article that begins on page 28.

### The Watchtower® May 1

"What do you think might make it difficult for a person to have faith in God? [Allow for response.] According to this verse, faith is important. [Read Hebrews 11:6.] This magazine discusses four steps we can take to strengthen our faith."

### Awake!® May

"More and more people today are abusing prescription drugs. What do you feel is the reason for this? [Allow for response.] The Bible points to one major contributing factor, especially for children. [Read Proverbs 13:20.] This magazine discusses how you can protect yourself and your family from this pandemic."

# OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY
MAY 2009

**WEEK STARTING MAY 11**

Song 117

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* app. subheading on p. 209 to subheading on p. 212

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Exodus 27-29

**No. 1:** Exodus 29:1-18

**No. 2:** The Way to Be Happy (*lr* chap. 17)

**No. 3:** Misplaced Loyalty and Its Dangers

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 43

***5 min:*** Announcements.

**10 min:** Can You Auxiliary Pioneer During the Summer? Audience discussion based on the *Organized* book, pages 112-113. Outline the requirements, and invite those who have experienced auxiliary pioneer service to comment on the blessings they enjoyed.

**10 min:** Prepare for the Ministry as a Family! Briefly interview two family heads who use some of the time during Family Worship to prepare for the ministry. How do they prepare, and how has such preparation been beneficial? Demonstrate how one family head uses practice sessions to prepare for magazine work.

**10 min:** "Teach With Simplicity." Question-and-answer discussion.

Song 158

## Teach With Simplicity

[1] Simplicity is a key ingredient in effective teaching. Considering the way the Great Teacher, Jesus, taught can help us to enhance our "art of teaching."—2 Tim. 4:2; John 13:13.

[2] **Speak With Simplicity:** The Sermon on the Mount contains some of the most profound truths ever spoken by man, all expressed with simplicity. (Matt., chaps. 5-7) The crowds listening to Jesus were "astounded at his way of teaching." Officers sent to arrest him were moved to say: "Never has another man spoken like this." (Matt. 7:28, 29; John 7:46) We do not need to use high-sounding words, complicated phrases, or detailed illustrations to make the truth thoroughly convincing to others. The truth can be clearly explained using familiar terms.

[3] **Gauge the Amount:** Jesus took into consideration his audience in determining how much information to convey to them at one time. (John 16:12) We must be observant and flexible in this regard, especially when witnessing to relatives, newly interested persons, or children. We should be careful not to overwhelm them with information even when they may appear to be listening attentively. Those who are honesthearted will continue to take in knowledge of the true God, Jehovah. —John 17:3; 1 Cor. 3:6.

[4] **Focus on Main Points:** Jesus did not clutter what he was teaching by including too many details. When he said: "All those in the memorial tombs will . . . come out," it was not the time for him to elaborate regarding the two destinies of those resurrected. (John 5: 28, 29) When conducting Bible studies, we should focus on the main points and curb the tendency to bring unnecessary outside material into the discussion.

[5] How grateful we are that Jehovah has taught with simplicity all we need to know! (Matt. 11:25) May we apply ourselves to teaching with simplicity and experience the joys of having a fruitful ministry.

1. What is one important aspect of clear, effective teaching?
2. What is involved when teaching with simplicity, and what effects does such teaching have?
3. Why may some tend to overwhelm their audience, and how can this be avoided?
4. Why is it beneficial to focus on main points rather than details?
5. What blessing may we obtain if we teach with simplicity?

**WEEK STARTING MAY 18**

Song 24

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 5 ¶1-6, boxes on pp. 52, 55

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Exodus 30-33

**No. 1:** Exodus 31:1-18

**No. 2:** Why Gifts of Healing Were Given in the First Century (*rs* p. 159 ¶2–p. 160 ¶2)

**No. 3:** Do You Remember to Say Thank You? (*lr* chap. 18)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 140

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** God's Name—A Strong Tower. Talk based on material beginning under the second subheading on page 274 in the *Ministry School* book.

**10 min:** Three Aspects of Effective Introductions. Audience discussion based on the *Reasoning* book, page 9, paragraph 1. After considering the material, demonstrate how the offer for June may be introduced.

**10 min:** "How to Prepare for the Service Meeting." Question-and-answer discussion.

Song 28

## How to Prepare for the Service Meeting

[1] The Service Meeting is designed to equip us for a productive ministry. The focus is on preaching the Kingdom good news, making disciples, and declaring the approaching execution of divine judgment. (Matt. 28:20; Mark 13:10; 2 Pet. 3:7) We benefit most from this important meeting when we are well prepared and ready to participate.

[2] **Talk:** Source material for a talk is generally shown in the instructions to the speaker. You may review the assigned material, including the cited scriptures, and think about how you may apply the information in your ministry.

[3] **Question-and-Answer Discussion:** This part will be handled much like the *Watchtower* Study, with a brief introduction and conclusion. Underline key points in each paragraph, and be prepared to give brief meaningful comments.

[4] **Audience Discussion:** This part will be presented as a talk, but the speaker will call for some audience participation. If you underline the key points and look up the cited scriptures, you may be able to comment when questions are asked. The brother handling this part will make every effort to involve the audience in covering main points.

[5] **Demonstrations:** Some parts will include realistic demonstrations to show how the information considered may be used in the local territory. Elders or experienced publishers or pioneers will be called on to help out in this way. Your preparation for this part may include anticipating how the matter will be presented. When a sample presentation is demonstrated, think about how you might personalize it and adapt it to different householders. Be sure to have with you the publication or magazine that will be used in the demonstration. During your Family Worship evening, you may find it beneficial to practice some of these presentations.

[6] The Service Meeting is more enjoyable when we are prepared and we anticipate the fine instruction to be presented. Doing so will result in a greater interchange of encouragement. (Rom. 1:11, 12) If we take the time to prepare for the Service Meeting, we will be better equipped to fulfill our commission. —2 Tim. 3:17.

1. What is the purpose of the Service Meeting, and how may we gain the most benefit from it?
2. How can we prepare to listen to a talk?
3. What may we do to prepare for a question-and-answer discussion?
4. How may we prepare for an audience discussion?
5. What will help us to benefit the most from demonstrations?
6. What are some reasons for preparing for the Service Meeting?

© 2009 Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. All rights reserved. *Our Kingdom Ministry* (ISSN 1067-7259) is published monthly by Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses; C. I. Woody, President; W. H. Nonkes, Secretary-Treasurer; 2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237. Periodicals Postage Paid at Brooklyn, NY, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *Our Kingdom Ministry*, 1000 Red Mills Road, **Wallkill, NY 12589-3299.** Printed in U.S.A.

**WEEK STARTING MAY 25**

Song 74

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 5 ¶7-15

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Exodus 34-37

**No. 1:** Exodus 37:1-24

**No. 2:** Is It Right to Fight? (*lr* chap. 19)

**No. 3:** What Is Permissiveness, and Why Should We Avoid It?

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 193

***5 min:*** Announcements.

**10 min:** Prepare to Offer the June 1 *Watchtower* and the June *Awake!* After giving a brief overview of the magazines, ask the audience which articles they are preparing to feature and why. What questions and scriptures could be used to introduce the articles? Demonstrate how each magazine might be offered in the local territory.

**10 min:** Bearing Witness to Jesus. Talk based on the three paragraphs on page 275 under this subject and the first paragraph on page 276 of the *Ministry School* book.

**10 min:** "Make Good Use of Our Publications." Question-and-answer discussion. Inform the congregation of the difference between the amount of literature requested and the amount reported as actually being placed.

Song 123

## Make Good Use of Our Publications

[1] After Jesus miraculously fed a large crowd, he arranged for the leftover food to be saved. (Matt. 14:19-21) Such appreciation for Jehovah's provisions sets a fine example for us to 'show ourselves thankful' by making good use of all that Jehovah provides through "the faithful steward."—Col. 3:15; Luke 12:42; Matt. 24:45-47.

1. How may we imitate Jesus' example of appreciation for Jehovah's provisions?

[2] **Magazines:** Magazines can easily accumulate. If we regularly have leftover magazines, we should reduce the number that we request. What about older magazines? These do not lose their value with the passage of time. If we have an accumulation of older magazines, perhaps the service overseer or another elder can assist us to find effective ways to place them.

[3] **Other Literature:** When the offer changes to a different publication, first check to see if you already have field service copies of the publication at home before obtaining additional copies of the literature at the Kingdom Hall. Be mindful of getting copies only as needed for the week, and return to the counter for more after those are placed.

[4] As for publications for personal use, request only what you actually need. Write your name in the space provided. That will help you keep track of your personal copy. If you use the *Watchtower Library* on CD-ROM and have saved your personal copies of the magazines, you may not feel a need to request personal copies of the *Watchtower* and *Awake!* bound volumes.

[5] **Placement of Publications:** We strive to place our publications only with those who show genuine interest. Keep in mind that we are the ones primarily responsible for the financial coverage of these valuable tools in our ministry. When leaving a publication with interested ones, do not hesitate to inform them of the privilege they have to support the worldwide work with their donation.

[6] Jesus miraculously provided physical food for others, but more often he fed people spiritually. Jesus said: "Man must live, not on bread alone, but on every utterance coming forth through Jehovah's mouth." (Matt. 4:4) Our publications teach Bible truths vital for gaining everlasting life. (John 17:3) They are far too valuable to waste!

2. How may we prevent the accumulation of magazines?

3, 4. What points should we keep in mind when we obtain literature at the Kingdom Hall?

5. What should we keep in mind when placing our publications?

6. Why do we value our publications so much, and what will this move us to do with them?

## WEEK STARTING JUNE 1

Song 26

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 5 ¶16-23

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Exodus 38-40

**No. 1:** Exodus 40:1-19

**No. 2:** Do You Always Want to Be First? (*lr* chap. 20)

**No. 3:** What Hope Is There for Real Healing for All Mankind? (*rs* p. 160 ¶3-5)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 129

***5* min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Help Others to Progress. Audience discussion based on material under the second subheading beginning on page 187 of the *Ministry School* book. Briefly interview a pioneer or other publisher who has helped new ones to progress.

**10 min:** Local needs.

**10 min:** What Did We Accomplish? Audience discussion. Commend the congregation for its increased activity during the Memorial season, and comment on what specifically was accomplished. Invite audience to relate experiences enjoyed while distributing Memorial invitations or while serving as auxiliary pioneers.

Song 53

## Announcements

■ Literature offer for **May:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. When making return visits on interested people, including those who attend the Memorial or other theocratic events but who are not actively associated with the congregation, concentrate on starting studies using the *Bible Teach* book. **June:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* If householders already have the book, publishers may offer any 192-page book published prior to 1992. **July and August:** Any 32-page brochures that are in stock except *How Can Blood Save Your Life?, Jehovah's Witnesses and Education,* and *Jehovah's Witnesses—Who Are They? What Do They Believe?*

■ The meeting schedule for the week preceding the week of the "Keep on the Watch!" District Convention may be adjusted to review counsel and reminders about attending the convention. A month or two following your convention, a local needs part may be used to review convention points that the publishers have found to be helpful in the ministry.

■ The branch facilities in Brooklyn, Patterson, and Wallkill, New York, will be closed on the following dates: May 8-9, 2009 (spring cleaning); September 12, 2009 (Gilead graduation); October 3, 2009 (annual meeting of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania); and March 13, 2010 (Gilead graduation). There will be no arrangements for tours or for congregations to pick up literature on those dates.

### Field Service Highlights

We are happy to report a new peak in the United States for January! The total of 663,250 Bible studies conducted is an increase of 25,337 over the previous peak of 637,913 in October 2008.

## What to Say About the Magazines

### THE WATCHTOWER® May 1

Read Matthew 24:3. Then say: "Some feel that this question is concerning the end of our earth. Do you think the earth will be destroyed? [Allow for response.] Jesus' answer gives us something to look forward to—not the end of the earth, but the end of something else. The article on page 16 examines this further."

### Awake!® May

"Some ministers preach that if we please God, he will give us material prosperity. Yet, you probably know good people who are poor. Do you think God wants us to be rich? [Allow for response. Then read Hebrews 13:5.] This article explains how God blesses us." Feature the article that begins on page 12.

### THE WATCHTOWER® June 1

"Self-help books on child rearing, love, and personal fulfillment are popular today. Have you personally found them to be helpful? [Allow for response.] Many overlook the following source of reliable advice. [Read 2 Timothy 3:16.] This magazine explains why we can trust the Bible and gives examples of the practical advice it contains."

### Awake!® June

"As you know, whether it is right or wrong to have an abortion is strongly debated. Do you think the Bible can be of help to someone deciding what to do? [Allow for response. Then read 2 Timothy 3:16, 17.] This magazine shows what the Bible says about this subject."

# OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

JUNE 2009

**WEEK STARTING JUNE 8**

Song 14

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* app. pp. 212-215

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Leviticus 1-5
**No. 1:** Leviticus 4:1-15
**No. 2:** Should We Brag About Anything? (*lr* chap. 21)
**No. 3:** How Should Christians Exercise Authority?

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 20

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Jesus' Vital Place in God's Purpose. Talk based on information under subheading beginning on page 276 of the *Ministry School* book.

**10 min:** The Offer for June. Demonstrate a presentation that has proved to be effective in the local territory. Also demonstrate using the publications when offering a Bible study.

**10 min:** "Our Ministry—A Reflection of Our Love for God." Question-and-answer discussion.

Song 10

## Our Ministry—A Reflection of Our Love for God

1 Love moved Jesus to carry out his ministry. Every aspect of Jesus' ministry is an undeniable testimony of his love for Jehovah. Jesus said: "In order for the world to know that I love the Father, even as the Father has given me commandment to do, so I am doing." (John 14:31) As footstep followers of Jesus, we also have the privilege of reflecting our deep love for God in our ministry.—Matt. 22:37; Eph. 5:1, 2.

1. What did love for God move Jesus to do?

2 **"Let Your Name Be Sanctified":** When we zealously take advantage of every opportunity to speak to others about Jehovah and his Kingdom arrangement, we show our love for God and, in effect, we are contributing to the sanctification of his name. (Ps. 83:18; Ezek. 36:23; Matt. 6:9) As was true of Jesus' ministry, our ministry is an ongoing reflection of our sincere desire for Jehovah's name to be sanctified and for his will to be done.—Matt. 26:39.

3 **Love Moves Us to Overcome Obstacles:** Love for Jehovah transcends all barriers. (1 Cor. 13:4, 7) Jesus faced a number of circumstances in life that could have deterred him from carrying out his ministry. However, when he encountered obstacles, his profound love and his desire to do Jehovah's will enabled him to prevail. (Mark 3: 21; 1 Pet. 2:18-23) We too face many challenges, which our love for God can help us to overcome. By adhering closely to the model set by Christ, we may feel confident and undeterred in fulfilling our ministry. Although family opposition, failing health, advanced age, or apathy on the part of people in general may affect us, it does not stop us from showing our love for Jehovah by carrying out our ministry as effectively as possible.

4 Love is powerful, and we are blessed to have the ability to reflect our whole-souled love of God in our ministry. (1 Cor. 13:13) As we swiftly approach the time when Jehovah's name will be sanctified once and for all, may our 'love abound yet more and more.'—Phil. 1:9; Matt. 22:36-38.

2. How does love for Jehovah affect our ministry?
3. In what way does our love for Jehovah help us to overcome obstacles?
4. What privilege does our love for Jehovah afford us?

**WEEK STARTING JUNE 15**

Song 175

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 6 ¶1-9

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Leviticus 6-9
**No. 1:** Leviticus 8:1-17
**No. 2:** 'Do You Believe in Healing?' (*rs* p. 160 ¶6–p. 161 ¶1)
**No. 3:** Why We Should Not Lie (*lr* chap. 22)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 25

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Preach the Good News. Enthusiastic talk based on the *Ministry School* book, page 279, paragraphs 1-4.

**10 min:** If Someone Says, 'I Believe in Evolution.' Audience discussion based on the *Reasoning* book, pages 126-128. Include a brief demonstration showing how we might reply when someone says, 'I believe that God created man by means of evolution.'

**10 min:** "Be Well Prepared for Teaching." Question-and-answer discussion.

Song 68

## Be Well Prepared for Teaching

1 When we are conducting a Bible study, we must be well prepared if we are to move the student to serve Jehovah. We must make our efforts count by building appreciation for Bible truth. This will in turn motivate the student. (Deut. 6:5; Prov. 4:23; 1 Cor. 9:26) Just how may we do this?

2 **Prayerful Preparation:** Since it is Jehovah who makes the seed of truth grow in the student's heart, it is appropriate that we begin preparing for the study by praying specifically for the student and his particular needs. (1 Cor. 3:6; Jas. 1:5) Such prayer may also assist us in determining how we can further help to fill his heart "with the accurate knowledge" of Jehovah's will.—Col. 1:9, 10.

3 **Consider the Student:** Jesus knew that effective teaching involves taking into consideration the audience. On at least two occasions, Jesus was asked the same question: "By doing what shall I inherit everlasting life?" Each time when answering, he used a different approach. (Luke 10:25-28; 18:18-20) We should *have the student in mind as we prepare.* Which of the cited scriptures will we read with him? How much material will we endeavor to cover? What points in the lesson might the student find difficult to understand or to accept? If we can anticipate some of the questions that might be raised, we will be better prepared to respond effectively.

4 **Review the Material:** No matter how many times we have studied the material in the past, it will be the first time we study it with the student. If we are to reach his heart, good preparation for each study is vital. This means doing what we encourage our student to do. Review the material, including the cited scriptures, with the student in mind, and perhaps underline key points.—Rom. 2:21, 22.

5 Jehovah is keenly interested in the progress of each Bible student. (2 Pet. 3:9) By taking time to prepare for each Bible study, we demonstrate the same loving concern.

1. Why should we focus on building appreciation when conducting a Bible study?
2. What role does prayer play in good preparation?
3. How may we prepare with the student in mind?
4. What does good preparation include?
5. How may we imitate Jehovah?

© 2009 Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. All rights reserved. *Our Kingdom Ministry* (ISSN 1067-7259) is published monthly by Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses; C. I. Woody, President; W. H. Nonkes, Secretary-Treasurer; 2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237. Periodicals Postage Paid at Brooklyn, NY, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *Our Kingdom Ministry*, 1000 Red Mills Road, **Wallkill, NY 12589-3299.** Printed in U.S.A.

### WEEK STARTING JUNE 22

Song 177

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 6 ¶10-15, box on p. 67

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Leviticus 10-13

**No. 1:** Leviticus 11:29-45

**No. 2:** The Reason People Get Sick (*lr* chap. 23)

**No. 3:** Blessings That Baptized Disciples Enjoy

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 7

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Help Your Listeners to Use Discernment. Audience discussion based on the *Ministry School* book, page 57, paragraph 3, to page 58, paragraph 3.

**10 min:** Prepare to Offer the July 1 *Watchtower* and the July *Awake!* After giving a brief overview of the magazines, ask the audience which articles they plan to feature and why. What questions and scriptures will they endeavor to use to introduce the articles? Demonstrate how each magazine might be introduced.

**10 min:** How to Overcome Objections About Religion. Audience discussion based on the *Reasoning* book, page 330, paragraph 4, to page 333, paragraph 2. Have one or two suggestions demonstrated.

Song 27

### WEEK STARTING JUNE 29

Song 124

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 6 ¶16-23

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Leviticus 14-16

Theocratic Ministry School Review

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 81

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Good Personal Appearance—Why Important. Audience discussion based on the *Ministry School* book, pages 131-134.

**10 min:** Choose Bible Topics for "People of All Sorts." (1 Cor. 9:22) Audience discussion. When the following questions are discussed, the audience may relate their personal experiences. What topics have you found to be appealing to certain age groups, genders, or religious groups? How may we use the *Reasoning* book to choose topics that will appeal to different ones? How may we be flexible in this regard?

**10 min:** The Offer for July and August. Review publications being offered. Demonstrate two or three presentations that may be effective in your territory.

Song 215

## Theocratic Ministry School Review

The following questions will be considered at the Theocratic Ministry School.

1. What can we learn from the prohibition found at Exodus 23:19? [*w06* 4/1 p. 31 pars. 1-5]
2. What were the Urim and the Thummim, and how were they used in ancient Israel? (Ex. 28:30) [*w06* 1/15 p. 18; *w01* 9/1 p. 27]
3. How did Jehovah speak to Moses "face to face"? (Ex. 33:11, 20) [*w04* 3/15 p. 27]
4. What lessons can be learned from Israel's generous contribution of materials and skills to build the tabernacle? (Ex. 35:5, 10) [*w99* 11/1 p. 31 pars. 1-2]
5. What does the screen mentioned at Exodus 40:28 represent in God's great spiritual temple? [*w00* 1/15 p. 15 pars. 7-8]
6. What aspect of Jesus' sacrifice is called to our attention by the "burnt offering," which was presented in its entirety on the altar? (Lev. 1:13) [*w04* 5/15 p. 21 par. 3]
7. What does the fact that "all the fat belongs to Jehovah" impress on us? (Lev. 3:16, 17) [*w04* 5/15 p. 22 par. 2]
8. What was the significance of putting some of the blood of the ram of installation on the right ear, right hand, and right foot of Aaron and his sons? (Lev. 8:23, 24) [*it-2* p. 1113 par. 4]
9. What insight can we gain from Leviticus 12:8 concerning Jesus' upbringing, and what lesson can we learn from this? [*w98* 12/15 p. 6 par. 5]
10. How was the application of Jesus' ransom sacrifice typified on Israel's annual Atonement Day? (Lev. 16:11-16) [*w98* 2/15 p. 12 par. 2]

**WEEK STARTING JULY 6**

Song 109

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 7 ¶1-9, boxes on pp. 76-78

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Leviticus 17-20
**No. 1:** Leviticus 19:1-18
**No. 2:** Did We All Exist in the Spirit Realm Before Our Birth as Humans? (*rs* p. 161 ¶2–p. 162 ¶3)
**No. 3:** Never Become a Thief! (*lr* chap. 24)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 13

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Local needs.

**10 min:** Interview two or three congregation elders or ministerial servants. What encouraged them to reach out for a fine work? (1 Tim. 3:1-9) What encouragement and assistance did they receive from others? What blessings have they enjoyed?

**10 min:** Helping Others Put the Kingdom First. Talk based on information under the subheading on page 281 of the *Ministry School* book.

Song 43

## Announcements

■ Literature offer for **June:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* If householders already have the book, publishers may offer any 192-page book published prior to 1992. **July and August:** Any 32-page brochures that are in stock except *How Can Blood Save Your Life?, Jehovah's Witnesses and Education,* and *Jehovah's Witnesses—Who Are They? What Do They Believe?* **September:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Endeavor to start Bible studies on the initial call. Show how householders can benefit from the book by briefly demonstrating a Bible study.

■ Whenever personal travel plans include visiting a land that is not listed separately in the current service year report or whose address is not listed on the last page of the latest *Yearbook,* please contact your branch office to ascertain what precautions or special instructions may need to be followed. The Kingdom work in that area may be under certain restrictions. (Matt. 10:16) In some lands it may not be advisable for visitors to make contact with local Witnesses or congregations. Other direction may be provided to you regarding informal witnessing or carrying supplies of literature. Your cooperation with the direction provided will prevent unnecessary problems for you or for the Kingdom work.—1 Cor. 14:33, 40.

### Field Service Highlights

We are happy to report a new peak in the United States for February! The total of 669,721 Bible studies conducted is an increase of 6,471 over the previous peak set in January 2009. Additionally, Bermuda reported a new peak of 72 regular pioneers, which is 15 percent of their total number of publishers.

## What to Say About the Magazines

### The Watchtower® June 1

"Many believe that the world's religions are different roads leading to the same God. What is your opinion? [Allow for response.] Notice what the Bible says. [Read Joshua 24:15.] This article gives compelling reasons to examine personally whether our religion is leading us to the true God." Feature the article that begins on page 12.

### Awake!® June

"All of us know people who have died. Do you think we need to be afraid that some of them may be angry and want to harm us? [Allow for response. Then read Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6.] You will find this article comforting." Feature the article that begins on page 22.

### The Watchtower® July 1

"Many people who have a Bible find it difficult to understand. Have you ever felt that way? [Allow for response.] According to this verse, the Author of the Bible wants us to understand and benefit from his written Word. [Read Psalm 119:130.] This magazine gives three suggestions that will help us to understand the Bible."

### Awake!® July

"Depression affects many today. Do you think God is personally interested in those who are suffering emotionally? [Allow for response. Then read Psalm 34:18.] This magazine explains how those who are depressed may receive help from God, even if they also require medical treatment. It also gives suggestions on what we can say to console them."

# OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

JULY 2009

**WEEK STARTING JULY 13**

Song 40

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 7 ¶10-19, box on p. 81

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Leviticus 21-24
**No. 1:** Leviticus 22:17-33
**No. 2:** Can Those Who Do Bad Things Change? (*lr* chap. 25)
**No. 3:** How True Christians Show Concern for the Poor

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 224

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Use the Bible in Your Ministry. Audience discussion based on page 145 of the *Ministry School* book. Briefly demonstrate the value of using a translation that uses God's personal name, Jehovah.

**10 min:** Starting Bible Studies. Relate experiences or interview publishers regarding what has been accomplished locally when Bible studies were offered on the day designated for this special activity.

**10 min:** "Can You Expand Your Service?" Question-and-answer discussion.

Song 17

## Can You Expand Your Service?

[1] Observing the interest that multitudes showed in the Kingdom good news, Jesus instructed his disciples to "beg the Master of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest." (Matt. 9:37, 38) Since we are in the final hours of the harvest season, our work is even more urgent than ever before. This means that we should prayerfully consider how we can have a fuller share in the field ministry.—John 14:13, 14.

1. What urgency exists in the field ministry, and why?

[2] **Expanded Service:** With Jehovah's guidance and help, many have found it possible to take up pioneer service. (Ps. 26: 2, 3; Phil. 4:6) Some made a special effort to serve as auxiliary pioneers one or more months during the year. This proved to be a fine way to expand their ministry. The happiness derived from engaging in this privilege caused many of them to consider becoming regular pioneers.—Acts 20:35.

[3] **Can You Resume Pioneer Service?:** If you previously served as a pioneer, you no doubt hold cherished memories of that time. Have you given prayerful thought to the possibility of returning to the pioneer ranks? The circumstances that caused you to come off the pioneer list may no longer be a hindrance. The time may have come for you to enjoy that special privilege once more.—1 John 5:14, 15.

[4] The harvest work is well under way and is soon to be finished. (John 4:35, 36) May all of us examine our present situation to determine whether we can adjust our affairs so as to expand our participation in the field. Or if we sincerely find that we cannot expand our service, can we look for ways to become more effective? (Mark 12:41-44) What a privilege is now set before all those whose present circumstances allow them to be used by Jehovah in this unique endeavor!—Ps. 110:3.

2. How have some responded to the call for more workers in the field?
3. If you have pioneered before, what may you now wish to consider?
4. What unique opportunity is open to all of us?

**WEEK STARTING JULY 20**

Song 73

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 7 ¶20-28

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Leviticus 25-27
**No. 1:** Leviticus 25:39-54
**No. 2:** Why It Is Hard to Do Good (*lr* chap. 26)
**No. 3:** If Adam Had Not Sinned, Would He Eventually Have Gone to Heaven? (*rs* p. 162 ¶4-5)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 46

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Laying Christ as the Foundation. Talk based on the *Ministry School* book, page 278, paragraphs 1-4.

**10 min:** Prepare to Offer the August 1 *Watchtower* and the August *Awake!* After giving a brief overview of the magazines, ask the audience which articles they feel may appeal to people in the territory and why. Ask audience to suggest a question that they would use to start a conversation and a scripture that they would read before offering the magazines. Conclude by demonstrating how each magazine might be offered.

**10 min:** "A Circuit Assembly to Help Us Safeguard Our Spirituality." Question-and-answer discussion.

Song 65

## A Circuit Assembly to Help Us Safeguard Our Spirituality

1 Jehovah generously provides the information, training, and encouragement we need to share in the divine commission to spread the good news. (Matt. 24:14; 2 Tim. 4:17) Our annual circuit assembly is one such provision. A new program for the 2010 service year will develop the theme "Safeguard Your Spirituality," based on Romans 8:5 and Jude 17-19. It is scheduled to begin the week of August 31, 2009.

1. What is one provision from Jehovah to help us fulfill our commission to spread the good news?

2 **How Beneficial:** The program will alert us to dangers, such as distractions that threaten to consume our time and divert our attention from what is truly important. We will learn how to counteract the spirit of permissiveness, and we will consider what characterizes a spiritual person. The Sunday symposium will show how individuals and family groups can take steps to strengthen their spirituality in the face of increasing pressures and serious tests of faith. The program will help us to safeguard our hearts, maintain our spiritual health, and keep clearly in mind the grand blessings that await those who safeguard their spirituality.

3 As soon as you learn when and where your next circuit assembly will be held, make plans to be present and attentive for all sessions both days. Be assured, Jehovah blesses the hands of the diligent one. —Prov. 21:5.

4 Indeed, Jehovah is the Provider of this good gift. The program prepared by the faithful slave class will be just what we need to carry on as Christian ministers. We are grateful to Jehovah for all his loving provisions helping us to "hold fast the public declaration of our hope without wavering."—Heb. 10:23-25; Jas. 1:17.

2. (a) In what ways will the circuit assembly be beneficial to us? (b) How have past circuit assemblies helped you in the ministry?

3. When is your next circuit assembly, and what should be your resolve?

4. What are we sure to receive at our upcoming circuit assembly?

© 2009 Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. All rights reserved. *Our Kingdom Ministry* (ISSN 1067-7259) is published monthly by Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses; C. I. Woody, President; W. H. Nonkes, Secretary-Treasurer; 2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237. Periodicals Postage Paid at Brooklyn, NY, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *Our Kingdom Ministry*, 1000 Red Mills Road, **Wallkill, NY 12589-3299.** Printed in U.S.A.

**WEEK STARTING JULY 27**

Song 77

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* app. pp. 215-218

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Numbers 1-3
**No. 1:** Numbers 3:1-20
**No. 2:** Why Mildness Requires Self-Control
**No. 3:** Who Is Your God? (*lr* chap. 27)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 131

***5* min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Use Questions Effectively. Audience discussion based on the *Ministry School* book, page 236 to page 237, paragraph 2. Briefly demonstrate one or two points from the material.

**10 min:** Interview two or three exemplary parents. How do they meet the challenge of caring for their ministry as a family? What steps have they taken to help their children have a meaningful share in the ministry? How have they used the Family Worship arrangement in this regard?

**10 min:** "Praise Jehovah Each Day." Question-and-answer discussion.

Song 154

## Praise Jehovah Each Day

[1] King David expressed his determination to praise Jehovah "all day long," even to time indefinite. (Ps. 145:2, 7, 21) We too have good reason to praise Jehovah each day.—Ps. 37:10; 145:14, 18; 2 Pet. 3:13.

[2] **In Our Home:** We have upbuilding printed material for meaningful spiritual discussions when considering the daily text, when enjoying Family Worship, and when preparing for congregation meetings. Many families make a practice of being together for at least one meal each day. That allows for unhurried, relaxed conversation and offers opportunities to praise Jehovah. Such informal discussions initiated by parents can be an important aid in bringing up their children in "the discipline and mental-regulating of Jehovah."—Eph. 6:4; Deut. 6:5-7.

[3] **With Our Brothers:** When in field service or at congregation meetings, we have excellent opportunities to praise Jehovah alongside fellow believers. (Prov. 15:30; Phil. 4:8; Heb. 13:15) Since we hold our love for Jehovah in common, it should be easy to include sincere expressions of appreciation for Jehovah's goodness when talking with one another.—Ps. 106:1.

[4] **When Speaking to Unbelievers:** Although circumstances may not allow us to share in the public ministry each day, speaking even briefly to workmates, schoolmates, and others around us about Jehovah and his purposes can instill hope in honesthearted people. (Ps. 27:14; 1 Pet. 3:15) While traveling on an airplane, a sister was able to witness to a fellow passenger who felt so comforted and encouraged by what she heard that she gave the sister her address and phone number so that they could keep in contact with each other. As the world suffers from deepening trouble and worsening conditions, Jehovah's people continue to bring to those with listening ears "good news of something better." This offers others hope and causes them to praise Jehovah.—Isa. 52:7; Rom. 15:11.

[5] How it must please Jehovah to hear his servants praising him each day! As with Jehovah's visible creation that surrounds us, we too can bubble forth his praises each day in our homes, in the congregation, and when speaking with others who as yet have not become fellow praisers of Jehovah.—Ps. 19:1-4.

1. What are God's servants motivated to do, and why?
2. How may families praise Jehovah each day?
3. What opportunities do we have when with our brothers?
4. In what circumstances can you praise Jehovah?
5. Why is it our desire to praise Jehovah, and what might this accomplish?

## WEEK STARTING AUGUST 3

Song 198

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 8 ¶1-10

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Numbers 4-6
**No. 1:** Numbers 4:1-16
**No. 2:** How to Know Whom to Obey (*lr* chap. 28)
**No. 3:** Must a Person Go to Heaven to Have a Truly Happy Future? (*rs* p. 163 ¶1-3)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 166

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Interview two or three publishers who have experienced serving where the need was greater or in seldom-worked territory. What apprehensions did they have, and how did they overcome these? How did Jehovah bless their efforts? Ask them to relate or briefly reenact one or two field service experiences they enjoyed.

**10 min:** Local needs.

**10 min:** Rely on Jehovah's Help in Developing Teaching Ability. Audience discussion based on the *Ministry School* book, page 56, paragraph 1 to page 57, paragraph 2.

Song 171

## Announcements

■ Literature offer for **July and August:** Any 32-page brochures that are in stock except *How Can Blood Save Your Life?*, *Jehovah's Witnesses and Education*, and *Jehovah's Witnesses—Who Are They? What Do They Believe?* **September:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Endeavor to start Bible studies on the initial call. Show how householders can benefit from the book by briefly demonstrating a Bible study. **October:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. Where interest is shown, present and discuss the tract *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* If householders already have the tract, endeavor to start a Bible study.

■ Since August has five full weekends, it would be an excellent month to auxiliary pioneer.

■ Groups of 20 or more planning to visit the United States branch office facilities at Brooklyn, Patterson, and Wallkill should first correspond with the Central Tour Desk at 100 Watchtower Drive, Patterson, NY 12563-9204, or at fax number (845) 306-0200. At least two weeks prior to visiting, please send information on the number coming and the dates and times for visiting each location. *Lodging information may be obtained from the congregation secretary.* Before your visit, please review the March 2008 *Our Kingdom Ministry* Question Box.

### Field Service Highlights

We are pleased to report a new peak in Bible studies in the United States for the third consecutive month! The total of 691,657 Bible studies conducted in March is an increase of 21,936 over the previous peak. It is thrilling to see that in the Turks and Caicos Islands there were peaks in publishers, hours, magazines, and return visits. Also, the total of 498 Bible studies is an increase of 73 over the previous peak set in January 2009.

## What to Say About the Magazines

### The Watchtower® July 1

"Do you think it's possible to find inner peace in these troubled times? [Allow for response.] Notice what the Bible says at Philippians 4:6, 7. [Read.] This article explains how we can experience the peace that God gives." Highlight the article that begins on page 10.

### Awake!® July

"Most of us are thankful for what our parents have taught us. Do you think it is disrespectful to examine the religious teachings we learned as a child? [Allow for response. Then read 1 John 4:1.] This article shows whether it's wrong to change our religion." Feature the article that begins on page 28.

### The Watchtower® August 1

"Some say that all religions are different roads that lead to the same God. Do you think that all religions are good? [Allow for response. Then read Matthew 7:13, 14.] This magazine outlines three specific things that the Bible says good religion should promote."

### Awake!® August

"All of us have been victims of unfair discrimination. How do you think God feels about prejudice? [Allow for response. Then read Acts 10:34, 35.] The Bible can help us to cope when we are victims of discrimination. It also helps us to root out any prejudices that we may have. This magazine explains."

# OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

AUGUST 2009

**WEEK STARTING AUGUST 10**

Song 78

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 8 ¶11-18

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Numbers 7-9
**No. 1:** Numbers 9:1-14
**No. 2:** Do All Parties Please God? (*lr* chap. 29)
**No. 3:** Ways in Which We Show Loyalty to Jehovah

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 47

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** The Offer for August. A presentation that has proved to be effective in local territory may be demonstrated. Also, show how the publication may be used when offering a Bible study.

**10 min:** Explaining the Kingdom. Talk based on the *Ministry School* book, page 280, paragraph 1, to page 281, paragraph 2.

**10 min:** "Special Assembly Day Program for 2010." Question-and-answer discussion.

Song 93

## Special Assembly Day Program for 2010

[1] "Make Sure of the More Important Things," "Standing Firm as One Flock," "Keep Bearing Witness to the Truth," and "We Are the Clay—Jehovah Is Our Potter." (Phil. 1:9, 10, 27; John 18:37; Isa. 64:8) These are but a few of the many themes discussed at past special assembly days. Are you eager to attend the special assembly day for the 2010 service year? It will develop the theme: "The Time Left Is Reduced," taken from 1 Corinthians 7:29.

[2] Start building enthusiasm for the special assembly day as soon as the date is announced in your congregation. Some parents help their children look forward to the assembly by putting the date on the family calendar, along with a checklist of items needed, and then they count down the days. During your Family Worship evening, you may wish to review notes from previous special assembly days. You can also prepare your heart for this event by reviewing *Benefit From Theocratic Ministry School Education,* pages 13-16, to help you and your family "pay attention to how you listen."—Luke 8:18.

[3] **Apply What You Learn:** A common expression heard after an assembly is, "What a wonderful program!" That is always true, as this is one of many rich provisions from Jehovah. (Prov. 10:22) For the information to bear fruit, you must meditate on it and retain it. (Luke 8:15) Take time on your way home after the assembly to discuss the program as a family or with those in your car group. Discuss one another's goals and points that will help you in your ministry. Doing so will contribute to your benefiting from the information long after the assembly.—Jas. 1:25.

[4] We always feel special when we receive a practical gift that is exactly what we need. Do we not eagerly anticipate what Jehovah has in store for us at our next special assembly day? We can be sure that it will be practical in every way. We can expect to receive from our heavenly Father, Jehovah, just the right gift by way of encouragement and training for carrying on the work he has assigned us to do.—2 Tim. 4:2; Jas. 1:17.

1. (a) What Scriptural special assembly day themes have been developed in recent years? (b) Are there any particular highlights from previous special assembly days that assisted you in your ministry?

2. How may enthusiasm for this assembly be generated?
3. How can we fully benefit from what will be presented?
4. Why will this assembly be special for us?

**WEEK STARTING AUGUST 17**

Song 225

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 8 ¶19-26, boxes on pp. 94, 96

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Numbers 10-13
**No. 1:** Numbers 13:17-33
**No. 2:** Help to Overcome Our Fears (*lr* chap. 30)
**No. 3:** What Does 1 Peter 3:19, 20 Mean? (*rs* p. 163 ¶4)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 36

**5 min:** Announcements.

**15 min:** Preaching From House to House. Audience discussion of *Organized* book, page 92, paragraph 3, to page 95, paragraph 2. Interview one or two publishers who preach from house to house despite obstacles, such as physical infirmities or shyness. How have their efforts been rewarded?

**15 min:** "Are You Ready for School?" Question-and-answer discussion. Interview one or two youths who have successfully given a witness at school. What has helped them to do so? Have them relate an experience.

Song 221

## Are You Ready for School?

1 Whether it is your first or yet another year for enrollment, you young Christians face new challenges and pressures. But you also have before you fresh opportunities to "bear witness to the truth." (John 18:37) Are you well-prepared and ready to give a witness?

2 To help you succeed in every aspect of life, you have received much training from Jehovah, from your parents, and from the faithful and discreet slave. (Prov. 1:8; 6:20; 23:23-25; Eph. 6:1-4; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17) By now you no doubt know what challenges to expect in your school. With godly training and knowledge of the environment you will face, prepare yourself to give a witness. (Prov. 22:3) Give serious consideration to the instruction and helpful Scriptural suggestions found in the two volumes of *Young People Ask* as well as in related articles published regularly in *Awake!*

3 Your unique territory will allow you to give a witness in many ways. When others observe your exemplary dress and grooming, your conduct and speech, your respectfulness toward your classmates and teachers, and even your grades, and they sense that you have a solid foundation in life, some may ask, "Why are you so different?" (Mal. 3:18; John 15:19) An opportunity may open up for you to give a witness and explain your convictions. (1 Tim. 2:9, 10) Throughout the year, you will likely face challenges such as nationalistic ceremonies and holidays. If asked why you do not participate, will you just say, "It is against my religion; I am one of Jehovah's Witnesses," or will you take the opportunity to give a witness about your loving Father, Jehovah? Good preparation under Jehovah's direction will make you ready to give a fine witness to teachers, fellow students, and others.—1 Pet. 3:15.

4 Although you may be a bit apprehensive about going to school, know that you have the support of many that want you to have a successful school year. Furthermore, we rejoice with you in the prospects you have to witness to others in your unique territory. Therefore, be courageous and ready for school!

1. What opportunities await you as you begin your schooling?
2. In what ways are you ready for school?
3. In what ways will you be able to give a witness?
4. Why are you confident that you can have a successful school year?

© 2009 Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. All rights reserved. *Our Kingdom Ministry* (ISSN 1067-7259) is published monthly by Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses; C. I. Woody, President; W. H. Nonkes, Secretary-Treasurer; 2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237. Periodicals Postage Paid at Brooklyn, NY, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *Our Kingdom Ministry*, 1000 Red Mills Road, **Wallkill, NY 12589-3299.** Printed in U.S.A.

**WEEK STARTING AUGUST 24**

Song 38

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 9 ¶1-12, box on p. 101

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Numbers 14-16
**No. 1:** Numbers 14:26-43
**No. 2:** What Does It Mean to Love God's Law? (Ps. 119:97)
**No. 3:** Where to Find Comfort (*lr* chap. 31)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 218

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Prepare to Offer the September 1 *Watchtower* and September *Awake!* Briefly review the contents of the magazines. Ask audience what question and scripture they plan to use to introduce the offer. Have one or two presentations demonstrated.

**20 min:** "Meet the Challenge of Witnessing to Men." Question-and-answer discussion. After discussing paragraph 9, interview an elder. What has helped him to reach out for privileges of service in the congregation? What training has he received and from whom?

Song 204

## Meet the Challenge of Witnessing to Men

[1] As the Kingdom work continues to increase in these last days, there is an urgent need for spiritually qualified men to take the lead. (Mark 4:30-32; Acts 20:28; 1 Tim. 3:1-13) Yet, in some places fewer men than women are embracing the Kingdom message. In some cultures, men defer to their wives when it comes to spiritual matters and religious instruction for the children. How can we encourage more men to become conscious of their spiritual need and join us in true worship?

1. What urgent need exists in caring for Kingdom interests?

[2] **Search for Men:** When a family head accepts the truth, he often influences others in the family to join him in pure worship. For example, while in prison for their preaching, Paul and Silas witnessed to a jailer. The man and his entire household were baptized. (Acts 16:25-34) As a result of Paul's preaching in Corinth, "Crispus the presiding officer of the synagogue became a believer in the Lord, and so did all his household." (Acts 18:8) Peter was used by Jehovah to witness to Cornelius, an army officer described as "a devout man and one fearing God." Cornelius, together with his relatives and intimate friends, was baptized.—Acts 10:1-48.

[3] Witnessing to men "in high station" may have far-reaching effects. (1 Tim. 2:1, 2) For example, Jehovah's angel advised Philip to speak to "a man in power" who was over all the treasure of the queen of the Ethiopians. Philip heard the man "reading aloud the prophet Isaiah" and explained to him the good news about Jesus. This Ethiopian became a disciple and likely spread the good news en route to his homeland. He also may have witnessed to the queen and those in her court, persons who otherwise would have had limited opportunities to hear the good news.—Acts 8:26-39.

[4] **Contact More Men:** Since men are often at their jobs during the day, could you arrange your schedule to spend more time in the ministry in the evenings, on weekends, or during holidays? Regularly working business territory will give you additional opportunities to witness to men who are seldom at home. Brothers can also make a special effort to witness informally to their male workmates. In the house-to-house ministry, especially in territory that is worked

2. How did the efforts of Paul and Peter to witness to men bear good results?
3. In imitation of Philip, to whom "in high station" can you give a witness?
4. How can we give men more opportunities to hear the good news?



Tuesday, October 19, 2010 AOL: Towerwatcher710

frequently, brothers might on occasion ask to speak with the man of the house.

5 A sister who receives a favorable response to the truth from a man should not call back alone. She may take along her husband or another publisher. As the interested person makes progress, it is generally best to turn the call over to a qualified brother.

6 **Choose Topics That Interest Men:** The apostle Paul considered his audience and adapted his approach so that he could "gain the most persons." (1 Cor. 9:19-23) Likewise, we should consider what topics will likely appeal to the men we may meet and prepare accordingly. For instance, men are often concerned about economic challenges, good government, and caring for the safety and security of their family. They may also be interested in the purpose of life, the future of the earth, and why God allows suffering. Our presentation of the Kingdom message will be better received if we manifest such insight in our approach.—Prov. 16:23.

7 **Reach Out to Unbelieving Husbands:** While the fine conduct of our Christian sisters often exerts the greatest influence on their unbelieving husbands, members of the congregation can also have a positive effect. (1 Pet. 3:1-4) When an unbelieving mate accompanies his wife to a meeting, the warm welcome he receives from the congregation will be a powerful witness. His presence likely indicates a measure of interest in the truth, and he may be willing to accept a Bible study.

8 On the other hand, some husbands show little spiritual interest initially but may eventually be willing to discuss the Bible with a brother they feel comfortable with. Brothers in one congregation made a point when occasionally visiting a religiously divided family to chat with the unbelieving husband about things they knew he was interested in. This eventually led to spiritual discussions, and now he is baptized. In another case, a brother helped a friendly unbelieving husband to build a fence around his house. By demonstrating personal interest in this way, a Bible study was started. (Gal. 6:10; Phil. 2:4) If you are a Christian brother, why not reach out to one or more of these unbelieving husbands?

9 **Train for the Future:** Men who respond to the Kingdom message and reach out for privileges in Jehovah's service may come to be among the "gifts in men," Christian elders who use their abilities and strengths in behalf of the congregations of Jehovah's people. (Eph. 4:8; Ps. 68:18) Such men shepherd the congregation willingly and eagerly. (1 Pet. 5:2, 3) What a blessing they become to the entire association of brothers!

10 For instance, Saul became "an apostle to the nations," though once a persecutor of Christians. (Rom. 11:13) The disciple Ananias was initially reluctant to preach to Saul because of this. Nevertheless, Ananias followed the Lord's direction and spoke to the man who became the apostle Paul. Over the years, Paul's ministry benefited the thousands who heard him preach as well as the millions who continue to benefit from his inspired letters recorded in God's Word. —Acts 9:3-19; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17.

11 May we therefore make whatever adjustments are necessary to meet the challenge of witnessing to men. As we pursue this goal, we are assured of Jehovah's blessing on our diligent efforts to do his will and care well for Kingdom interests.

5. How should a sister handle the matter when she receives a favorable response to the Kingdom message from a man?
6. How may we imitate the apostle Paul so as to "gain the most persons"?
7. How may all in the congregation have a positive effect on unbelieving husbands who attend a meeting?
8. How may brothers reach out to help unbelieving husbands who have demonstrated little interest in the truth?
9. What outcome may training of Christian men have?
10. How did Ananias' efforts to assist Paul benefit many?
11. Why should we make whatever adjustments are necessary to witness to men?

**WEEK STARTING AUGUST 31**

Song 132

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 9 ¶13-21, box on p. 104

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Numbers 17-21
Theocratic Ministry School Review

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 159

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** How to Reason on a Subject and Draw Out Inner Feelings. Audience discussion based on the *Ministry School* book, page 237, paragraph 3, to page 238, paragraph 5. One or two points from the material may be demonstrated.

**20 min:** "Meetings for Field Service." Question-and-answer discussion.

Song 151

## Theocratic Ministry School Review

The following questions will be considered at the Theocratic Ministry School during the week beginning August 31, 2009. The school overseer will conduct a 20-minute review based on material covered in assignments for the weeks of July 6 through August 31, 2009.

1. Why was capital punishment prescribed for anyone 'calling down evil' on his parents? (Lev. 20:9) [*w04* 5/15 p. 24 par. 6]
2. Since all male Israelites were required to be present at the Festival of Unfermented Cakes, who harvested the firstfruits of the barley offering? (Lev. 23:5, 11) [*w07* 7/15 p. 26 par. 3]
3. What is foreshadowed by the Jubilee year? (Lev. 25:10, 11) [*w04* 7/15 pp. 26-27]
4. Did "the signs" mentioned at Numbers 2:2 have any religious significance to Israel? [*w02* 9/15 p. 21 par. 4]
5. What spirit do full-time Kingdom proclaimers display today that is similar to that shown by the Nazirites in ancient Israel? (Num. 6: 3, 5, 6) [*w04* 8/1 pp. 24-25]
6. What principle of the law on Levite retirement can apply to Jehovah's people today? (Num. 8: 25, 26) [*w04* 8/1 p. 25 par. 1]
7. How did the Israelites come to express "selfish longing," and what lesson is there in this for Christians today? (Num. 11:4) [*w01* 6/15 pp. 14-15; *w95* 3/1 p. 15 par. 10]
8. Why was only Miriam stricken with leprosy, and what important lesson can be learned from this? (Num. 12:9-11) [*w04* 8/1 p. 26 par. 2; *it*-2 p. 415 par. 1]
9. What did Joshua and Caleb mean when they referred to the inhabitants of Canaan as "bread"? (Num. 14:9) [*w06* 10/1 p. 16 par. 5; *it*-1 pp. 363-364]
10. What warning example does Numbers 21:5 provide? [*w99* 8/15 pp. 26-27]

## Meetings for Field Service

[1] Jesus set the example of caring for the Kingdom-preaching work in an organized and efficient manner. Likewise today, those responsible for this worldwide Kingdom-preaching campaign are very desirous of seeing this work cared for in like manner. In harmony with this endeavor, congregations worldwide use meetings for field service as one way to organize groups of Kingdom preachers for the field service. —Matt. 24:45-47; 25:21; Luke 10:1-7.

[2] **A Fine Arrangement:** Meetings for field service are designed to provide encouragement, practical instruction, and direction for those about to go out in the field ministry. The daily text may be briefly discussed when clearly applicable to the field ministry. At times, reminders from *Our Kingdom Ministry,* the *Reasoning* book, or perhaps the *Ministry School* book are called to mind in order to prepare all present for the work that day. A brief demonstration regarding a publication being offered may also be presented. Before the concluding prayer, all should know with whom they will be working in the ministry and where the territory to be worked is located. Shortly after this meeting of no more than 15 minutes, all should be on their way to the territory.

[3] **How Are They Organized?** The service overseer, taking the lead, is responsible for the coordination of meetings for field service. Group overseers, or their assistants, are responsible for accompanying their respective field service groups on the weekends. Some overseers or ministerial servants may be able to accompany service groups midweek. Group overseers work closely with the service overseer so as to have sufficient territory for their group to work from house to house on the weekends. During the week, the service overseer will supervise the arrangements for those who will take the groups out for field service.

[4] **Where and When Should These Meetings Be Held?** Rather than having the entire congregation meet in one location, it is generally best for these meetings to be held in convenient locations, usually private homes, throughout the territory with the intent of working the congregation's territory effectively. Kingdom Halls may also be used for this purpose. Many congregations use the Kingdom Hall to hold a meeting for service shortly following their Sunday public talk and *Watchtower* Study. Effort should be made to minimize the amount of travel to the territory. Therefore, arrangements can be reviewed periodically to ensure that the current locations continue to be appropriate for working the territory efficiently and completely.

[5] The best time for these meetings to be held and how many times they should be conducted throughout the week depend on the makeup of the territory. The following questions may serve as a guide to determine where and when meetings for field service can best be held.

[6] What territory needs further attention? What is the best time to work from house to house? Should a time in the evening be scheduled for house-to-house work or to make return visits? All field service arrangements should be placed on the congregation information board. It is the

1. Why are we concerned about going out in field service in an organized manner?
2. What is expected at meetings for field service?
3. Who are responsible for the organization of meetings for field service?

4-6. (a) What objective do meetings for field service have in relation to the congregation territory? (b) What can be considered to determine the need for meetings for field service?

desire of all Kingdom publishers to cover their assigned territory thoroughly to such a degree that we too may say as did the apostle Paul: "I no longer have untouched territory."—Rom. 15:23.

[7] **Conducting Meetings for Field Service:** The one assigned to care for this meeting shows deep respect for this theocratic arrangement by preparing well. These meetings should start on time and should be instructive and brief, between 10 and 15 minutes. The conductor should have territory for the group to work before the meeting is started. Although it is not necessary to wait for latecomers after the meeting for field service has ended, leaving a message about where the group will be working can be helpful. All should be on their way to the assigned territory shortly after the meeting has finished. A well-organized and instructive meeting for field service will no doubt provide the necessary direction for all present to carry out their ministry that day.—Prov. 11:14.

[8] **Attending Meetings for Field Service:** Cooperation is essential. (Heb. 13:17) When possible, the one organizing the group will assist any who need someone to work with. It is good for experienced publishers to be present so as to be helpful in caring for newer and less experienced publishers. Those willing to be assigned to work with someone different, on occasion, may be able to accomplish much good. (Prov. 27:17; Rom. 15:1, 2) All should make a concerted effort to be punctual. Our respect for this theocratic arrangement and consideration for our fellow workers will move us to make the necessary adjustments in this regard.—2 Cor. 6:3, 4; Phil. 2:4.

7. What responsibility does the one assigned to take out the field service group have?
8. In what ways can those attending meetings for field service cooperate with those taking the lead?

[9] **Pioneer Support:** Pioneer support at meetings for field service is valuable and encouraging to all. Understandably, pioneers have many responsibilities. Aside from conducting Bible studies and making return visits, their daily schedule may include caring for family responsibilities and secular employment. Thus, pioneers should not feel required to support every meeting for field service organized by the congregation, especially if such are held each day. However, it will likely be possible for pioneers to support at least some meetings for service each week. To some degree, meetings for field service are a training ground, and the spiritual background and experience of the pioneers can be of great assistance to others. Their constant exposure to the field ministry has allowed them to gain experience in the ministry. This can be shared. Their zealous participation in the ministry and at meetings for field service has made them an example to imitate. And their participation at these meetings for service is very much appreciated.

[10] As was the case with Jesus and his disciples, a large part of our Kingdom-preaching work is accomplished by witnessing from house to house. Meetings for field service are for the purpose of mutual encouragement and effective participation in this work. All publishers of the good news should be supporters of such theocratic arrangements to the extent possible. (Acts 5:42; 20:20) May all of us give wholehearted support to this endeavor. By so doing, we can be sure of having Jehovah's rich blessing and can make the heart of our Leader, Jesus Christ, rejoice as we preach the good news of God's Kingdom. —Matt. 25:34-40; 28:19, 20.

9. In what valuable ways can pioneers support this arrangement?
10. Why is it appropriate that all Kingdom publishers give whole-hearted support to this arrangement?

## WEEK STARTING SEPTEMBER 7

Song 210

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 9 ¶22-26, box on p. 109, app. pp. 218-219

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Numbers 22-25
**No. 1:** Numbers 22:20-35
**No. 2:** How Jesus Was Protected (*lr* chap. 32)
**No. 3:** What Is the Meaning of 1 Peter 4:6? (*rs* p. 163 ¶5)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 167

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Answering Questions About the Last Days. Audience discussion based on the *Reasoning* book, page 241, paragraph 5, to page 243, paragraph 1. Have one suggestion briefly demonstrated.

**10 min:** Local needs.

**10 min:** Proven Methods of Searching Out Deserving Ones. Audience discussion of *Organized* book, page 95, paragraph 3, to page 96, paragraph 4. Have related or demonstrated one or two outstanding local experiences enjoyed doing alternative forms of witnessing.

Song 39

## Announcements

■ Literature offer for **August:** Any 32-page brochures that are in stock except *How Can Blood Save Your Life?, Jehovah's Witnesses and Education,* and *Jehovah's Witnesses—Who Are They? What Do They Believe?* **September:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Endeavor to start Bible studies on the initial call. Show how householders can benefit from the book by briefly demonstrating a Bible study. **October:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. Where interest is shown, present and discuss the tract *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* If householders already have the tract, endeavor to start a Bible study. **November:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* If householders already have the book, publishers may offer any 192-page book published prior to 1992.

### Field Service Highlights

We are pleased to report that the Memorial attendance in the United States on April 9, 2009, was the highest number ever recorded—2,469,036. This is 1,409,783 more than the average number of publishers for the 2008 service year. These figures reveal that there is "plenty to do in the work of the Lord."—1 Cor. 15:58.

For the second consecutive month, the congregations in the Turks and Caicos Islands reported new peaks in hours, magazines, and Bible studies.

## What to Say About the Magazines

### The Watchtower® August 1

"Many think that all good people will go to heaven. Is that what you believe? [Allow for response.] Notice what this says about the earth. [Read Psalm 37:11, 29.] This article shows what Jesus taught about mankind's future here on earth." Highlight the article that begins on page 22.

### Awake!® August

"Few events in life hurt more than the death of a parent. Do you agree? [Allow for response.] Many have been comforted by Bible verses such as this one. [Read Revelation 21:4.] This article explains how to manage the flood of emotions that occurs, especially for a youth." Feature the article that begins on page 10.

### The Watchtower® September 1

"Some say that if you are faithful to God, he will bless you with riches but that poverty is a sign of God's disapproval. What do you think? [Allow for response.] Interestingly, Jesus was not a rich man. [Read Luke 9:58.] This magazine discusses what kind of blessings servants of God can expect."

### Awake!® September

"Do you think that young people have more challenges today than in years past? [Allow for response.] Many feel this verse accurately describes our present time. [Read 2 Timothy 3:1.] This magazine outlines some practical Bible principles to help parents and youths to cope."

# OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

SEPTEMBER 2009

**WEEK STARTING SEPTEMBER 14**

Song 117

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 10 ¶1-8

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Numbers 26-29
**No. 1:** Numbers 27:1-14
**No. 2:** What Is Mental-Regulating, and Why Is It Important? (Eph. 6:4)
**No. 3:** Jesus Can Protect Us (*lr* chap. 33)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 33

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Making Return Visits. Audience discussion of three paragraphs under subheading on page 97 of the *Organized* book. Include a demonstration showing how to make a return visit on someone who accepted the literature offer for the current month.

**10 min:** Starting Bible Studies. Relate experiences, or interview publishers about what has been accomplished locally when Bible studies were offered on the day designated for this special activity. Using the offer for September, include demonstration to show how a Bible study might be started on the initial call.

**10 min:** "How Will You Answer?" Question-and-answer discussion.

Song 56

## How Will You Answer?

[1] To this day, humans marvel at the effective manner in which Jesus handled inquiries and requests. When faced with various types of questions while in our ministry, we do well to imitate Jesus in this regard.—1 Pet. 2:21.

[2] **Listen First:** Jesus considered the viewpoint of the questioner. At times this requires asking questions to ascertain what the person really means. Someone who asks, "Do you believe in Jesus?" may really wonder why you do not celebrate Christmas. If you discern the questioner's real concern, you can reason with him more effectively.—Luke 10:25-37.

[3] **Respond With God's Word:** It is usually best to show how the Bible answers the question. (2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Heb. 4:12) The *Reasoning* book and "Bible Topics for Discussion" in the *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures* have proved to be helpful in giving just the right answer. Even if the questioner does not accept the Bible as an authority, you may be able to share tactfully what the Scriptures teach. Encourage the person to give serious consideration to the time-tested wisdom found in the Bible. By your imitating Jesus, your answers will be "as apples of gold in silver carvings"—dignified, beautiful, and valuable.—Prov. 25:11.

[4] **Should We Answer Every Question?** If you do not know the answer to a question, do not feel embarrassed to say: "I don't know, but I can do research on your question and come back with the results of my research." Such modesty and personal interest may move the householder to invite you to return. If you discern that a question comes from opposers who may be trying to start an argument, imitate Jesus by limiting your response. (Luke 20:1-8) Similarly, if someone with no genuine interest in the truth tries to engage you in debate, politely discontinue the conversation and use your time searching for those who are sincere.—Matt. 7:6.

[5] Jesus knew that reliance on Jehovah was vital to fulfilling his assignment to "bear witness to the truth," which included answering sincerely motivated questions. (John 18:37) What a privilege we have to imitate Jesus in giving an answer to those who are "rightly disposed for everlasting life"!—Acts 13:48.

1. Why should we look to Jesus' example when asked a question?
2. What may help us to provide an effective answer to a question?
3. What do we have available to help us find satisfying Scriptural answers?
4. At what times is it best not to try to answer every question?
5. What model did Jesus set for answering questions?

**WEEK STARTING SEPTEMBER 21**

Song 69

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 10 ¶9-15, box on p. 114

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Numbers 30-32
**No. 1:** Numbers 32:1-15
**No. 2:** What Will Happen if We Die? (*lr* chap. 34)
**No. 3:** Is Heavenly Life the Hope for All Christians? (*rs* p. 164 ¶1-3)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 141

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Prepare to Offer the October 1 *Watchtower* and the October special issue of *Awake!* Briefly review the contents of the magazines. Ask audience which articles of the special October *Awake!* may have greater appeal locally. Interview a pioneer experienced in developing effective presentations and have him demonstrate one suggestion with the special issue of *Awake!*

**10 min:** If Someone Says, 'I'm Not Interested.' Audience discussion based on page 16 of the *Reasoning* book. Arrange for a publisher to demonstrate one or two of the published suggestions.

**10 min:** "Skillfully Use the Bible." Question-and-answer discussion.

Song 107

## Skillfully Use the Bible

1 Skillful use of God's inspired Word enables us to proclaim and teach the truth clearly and expose the false teachings and traditions of men.—2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Pet. 3:15.

2 **Increase Your Familiarity:** As with using any tool, skill comes with increased familiarity. Reading the Bible from cover to cover gives you an overall picture of the Bible's theme. This also helps you to remember scriptures and to find them more easily. As your familiarity with the Scriptures increases, you will speak with greater zeal and conviction when witnessing to others informally and in the field ministry. —1 Thess. 1:5.

3 Make it a practice to open your Bible and follow along during congregation meetings. When engaging in personal study and in preparation for congregation meetings, look up the cited Scriptural texts and meditate on their application. Many find that reading Bible texts directly from the Bible rather than from a computer monitor or printout makes it easier to locate them later when needed in the ministry.—John 14:26.

4 Some families have arranged for a time to memorize Bible texts. This may be done by using flash cards that have the scripture citation on one side and the text itself on the other side. They take turns using these to see if they can quote the scripture or recall where it is located. Practicing field presentations and answering an objection or a question using the Bible also increases our skill.

5 No other book can measure up to the Bible. It contains the only writings that are able to make people "wise for salvation." (2 Tim. 3:15) Since most people in our territory are not familiar with the precious treasures found in the Bible, we have good reason to increase our skill at showing them what the Bible truly has to offer. —Prov. 2:1-5.

1. Why is the Bible so useful?
2. What will help us locate scriptures with greater skill?

3, 4. (a) What are some ways for increasing our familiarity with the Bible? (b) Have you used other ways to become more familiar with the Scriptures?

5. Why do we want to increase our skill with the Bible?

© 2009 Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. All rights reserved. *Our Kingdom Ministry* (ISSN 1067-7259) is published monthly by Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses; C. I. Woody, President; W. H. Nonkes, Secretary-Treasurer; 2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237. Periodicals Postage Paid at Brooklyn, NY, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *Our Kingdom Ministry*, 1000 Red Mills Road, **Wallkill, NY 12589-3299.** Printed in U.S.A.

**WEEK STARTING SEPTEMBER 28**
Song 186

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 10 ¶16-24

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Numbers 33-36
**No. 1:** Numbers 33:1-23
**No. 2:** We Can Wake Up From Death! (*lr* chap. 35)
**No. 3:** Ways That God's Kingdom Is Superior to All Human Governments

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 21
**5 min:** Announcements.
**10 min:** Use Illustrations to Teach. Talk based on applicable information on pages 240-243 of the *Ministry School* book.
**20 min:** "Search Out Deserving Ones." Question-and-answer discussion. Interview one or two publishers who set a good example in working all types of territories.
Song 126

## Search Out Deserving Ones

[1] During Jesus' ministry he went to great lengths to provide comforting good news to the meek. (Isa. 61:1, 2) As ambassadors and envoys substituting for Christ, we today have the cherished privilege of imitating him in our untiring and thorough search for the deserving ones in our territory.—Matt. 10:11; 2 Cor. 5:20.

[2] **Be Adaptable:** The apostle Paul was accustomed to going first of all to the synagogue to preach to the Jews and proselytes. (Acts 14:1) In Philippi, he and Silas went to look for people where 'they thought there was a place of prayer.' They began witnessing to a group of women, and one of them, Lydia, quickly embraced the truth.—Acts 16:12-15.

[3] In addition to your house-to-house territory, could you also preach to people found at transportation hubs, parks, employment offices, busy street corners, business places, and shopping centers in your territory? Perhaps you could witness to those in gated communities and restricted apartments by means of letters or the telephone. Being observant and adaptable to changing needs in your territory will allow you to have "plenty to do in the work of the Lord."—1 Cor. 15:58.

[4] Many publishers have had the opportunity to expand their ministry by moving to another congregation either in their own land or abroad. Others have learned a new language in order to preach to people who have come from another country.

[5] All of us must keep in mind that "the field is the world." (Matt. 9:37; 13:38) In view of the nearness of the end of this wicked system of things, each one must seriously consider his own situation, talents, opportunities, and possibilities for expanding his ministry. Jehovah gives us the assurance that if we put Kingdom interests first, he will bless our genuine efforts to expand our ministry.—Matt. 6:33.

1. How do we show appreciation for the privilege to serve in the ministry?
2. How was Paul's adaptability manifested, and with what results?
3. What opportunities of service might we enjoy in addition to our house-to-house territory?
4. What other options do we have if our congregation has limited territory?
5. What should be our view of the times in which we live, and what should we be resolved to do?

## WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 5

Song 173

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 11 ¶1-9

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Deuteronomy 1-3
**No. 1:** Deuteronomy 2:1-15
**No. 2:** What Does the "New Testament" Say About Eternal Life on Earth? (*rs* p. 165 ¶1–p. 166 ¶2)
**No. 3:** Who Will Be Resurrected? Where Will They Live? (*lr* chap. 36)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 42

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* Audience discussion. Ask audience to relate which questions in the tract have been most effective in the local territory. Include a demonstration showing how this tract might be used to start a Bible study.

**10 min:** Local needs.

**10 min:** Preach to Those Who Speak Another Language. Audience discussion. Review the three steps outlined on page 2 of the booklet *Good News for People of All Nations,* and have a publisher demonstrate how the booklet might be used in the local territory.

Song 100

## Announcements

■ Literature offer for **September:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Endeavor to start Bible studies on the initial call. Show how householders can benefit from the book by briefly demonstrating a Bible study. **October:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. Where interest is shown, present and discuss the tract *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* If householders already have the tract, endeavor to start a Bible study. **November:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* If householders already have the book, publishers may offer any 192-page book published prior to 1992. **December:** *The Greatest Man Who Ever Lived.* If there are children in the household, offer *Learn From the Great Teacher.*

■ The special public talk for the 2010 Memorial season will be given during the week of April 12, 2010. The subject of the talk will be announced later. Those congregations having the visit of the circuit overseer or an assembly that weekend will have the special talk the following week. No congregation should have the special talk before April 12.

### Field Service Highlights

We are happy to report a new peak in Bible studies in the Turks and Caicos Islands for the second consecutive month. The total of 541 Bible studies conducted in the month of May is an increase of 41 over the previous peak of 500 set in April 2009. Truly, the islands are adding to Jehovah's praise.—Isa. 42:10

## What to Say About the Magazines

### THE WATCHTOWER® September 1

"Many feel that the Genesis account of Adam and Eve is fiction. Others believe that Adam and Eve were real people. What do you think? [Allow for response.] Notice how Jesus referred to them. [Read Mark 10:6-9.] This article examines the evidence and explains why it matters what we believe." Highlight the article that begins on page 12.

### Awake!® September

Read 1 John 4:8. Then say: "Some believe that God torments the wicked forever in a burning hell. Others feel that such an idea is inconsistent with what we just read. What do you think? [Allow for response.] This article shows what the Bible teaches on the subject." Feature the article that begins on page 10.

### THE WATCHTOWER® October 1

"All of us experience challenges in life. [Outline some that are common in your territory.] Do you think that God can help us with these? [Allow for response.] In this verse Jesus identifies one way that God helps us. [Read Luke 11:13.] This magazine explains what holy spirit is and how it can benefit us."

### Awake!® October

"Problems are certain to arise in every family. Where do you think families can go to get reliable and practical advice? [Allow for response. Then read Psalm 32:8.] This special issue of *Awake!* outlines several specific Bible principles that, when applied, will help families."

# OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY
OCTOBER 2009

**WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 12**
Song 110

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 11 ¶10-19

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Deuteronomy 4-6
**No. 1:** Deuteronomy 4:15-28
**No. 2:** Remembering Jehovah and His Son (*lr* chap. 37)
**No. 3:** When Can It Be Said That Less Is Better? (Prov. 15:16)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 13
**5 min:** Announcements.
**10 min:** Conducting Home Bible Studies. Talk based on information from *Organized* book, page 98, paragraph 1, to page 99, paragraph 1. Invite publishers to comment briefly on the joy they have experienced in teaching someone the truth.
**10 min:** The Offer for October. Have two demonstrations. One should raise a question that may be answered on the return visit. The other should demonstrate how to offer a Bible study on the first visit. A brief audience discussion may follow each demonstration, highlighting what was learned.
**10 min:** "Are You Ready for Informal Witnessing?" Question-and-answer discussion.
Song 48

## Are You Ready for Informal Witnessing?

1 Informal witnessing can be very effective. The Bible contains numerous examples of informal witnessing with good results. (John 4:7-15) What might we do to prepare for this type of witnessing?

2 **Dress and Grooming:** Proper attention to our dress and grooming at all times will allow us to share our faith freely with others. (1 Tim. 2:9, 10) If we feel uncomfortable about our appearance, we will likely hold back from giving a witness. In contrast, our neat, clean appearance may in itself arouse curiosity. For example, while traveling, a well-dressed Witness couple were seated next to a Muslim man. Noticing their appearance, the man asked if they were Christians. This led to a three-hour Bible discussion.

3 **Starting Conversations:** When Jesus met the Samaritan woman at Jacob's fountain, he began the conversation by simply requesting that she give him a drink. Similarly, we may be able to start a conversation by making a brief statement or by asking a simple question. Although we may at times be hesitant, by depending on Jehovah's assistance, we may 'muster up boldness' to start a conversation. —1 Thess. 2:2.

4 **Creating Opportunities:** Many publishers have found ways to witness informally. Review your circumstances, and think about the people you are likely to meet on a daily basis. Carry with you appropriate literature and a small Bible. Be observant, and take an interest in people around you. When you have given thought to opportunities that you may encounter during the day, you will likely be ready to give a fine witness.—Phil. 1:12-14; 1 Pet. 3:15.

5 We have two good reasons for taking advantage of opportunities to witness informally—love for God and love for neighbor. (Matt. 22:37-39) In view of the urgency of the preaching work, informal witnessing cannot be left merely to chance. We should be ready to take advantage of every appropriate opportunity to share the Kingdom good news with others while there is yet time.—Rom. 10:13, 14; 2 Tim. 4:2.

1. What example shows that informal witnessing can be effective?
2. How can our dress and grooming complement our readiness to give a witness?
3. Following Jesus' example, how have you started a conversation?
4. How can we get ready to witness informally?
5. Why should informal witnessing not be left to chance?

**WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 19**

Song 86

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 11 ¶20-22, box on p. 131

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Deuteronomy 7-10

**No. 1:** Deuteronomy 9:1-14

**No. 2:** Why We Should Love Jesus (*lr* chap. 38)

**No. 3:** To How Many Does the Bible Hold Out Hope of Heavenly Life? (*rs* p. 166 ¶3-4)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 44

***5* min:** Announcements.

**15 min:** Research Can Enhance Understanding. Talk based on material from page 33 to the subheading on page 34 of the *Ministry School* book. Discuss the material from the standpoint of publishers encouraging Bible students by showing them how to do research to fortify their faith and to prepare for the ministry. Present a demonstration showing how a publisher can help a Bible student to understand the value of research.

**15 min:** "Telephone Witnessing Can Be Effective." Question-and-answer discussion. Have two publishers each demonstrate a presentation using the offer for the month.

Song 75

## Telephone Witnessing Can Be Effective

[1] Why might we consider using telephone witnessing in our ministry? Because it is another means of helping others to obtain accurate knowledge for gaining salvation. (2 Pet. 3:9) Although our primary method of declaring the good news of God's Kingdom is house-to-house preaching, we willingly take advantage of other methods to reach those who may not be found at home.—Matt. 24:14; Luke 10: 1-7; Rev. 14:6.

1. Why might telephone witnessing be considered an important part of our ministry?

[2] **How It Is Organized:** As with field service arrangements for house-to-house work, telephone witnessing territory is also provided for the publishers. It may be done alone or with a *small group of perhaps two or three.* The place that is used should be conducive to the task at hand. Many find it advantageous to sit at a table and have in front of them items that they normally use when preaching from house to house.

[3] **How to Witness by Telephone:** When witnessing over the telephone, our presentation should be conversational. Some who are just beginning may read a presentation to the householder but in a conversational manner. Introductions found in the *Reasoning* book, *Our Kingdom Ministry,* and the tract *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* can be helpful in this regard. When developing your own presentation, identify a theme, develop a question, and be ready to share a few scriptures that provide the answer. Generally you would offer the same publications that are being offered from house to house. Consider the following reminders: Relax and speak slowly. Be courteous, patient, and friendly, as this can be perceived over the phone. Listen as the householder gives his thoughts, then acknowledge and express appreciation for his comments. Be careful not to mention the donation arrangement, as this could be misinterpreted as a form of telephone solicitation.

[4] The person you talk to on the telephone may be a shut-in or a person whose work schedule makes it difficult to reach him in the house-to-house ministry. There are others who live in gated communities or in apartments with restricted entrance. Therefore, in an effort to accomplish our ministry more fully and thoroughly, consider using the effective method of telephone witnessing.

2. How is telephone witnessing organized?
3. What should we keep in mind when witnessing over the phone?
4. What may telephone witnessing enable us to do with our assigned territory?

© 2009 Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. All rights reserved. *Our Kingdom Ministry* (ISSN 1067-7259) is published monthly by Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses; C. I. Woody, President; W. H. Nonkes, Secretary-Treasurer; 2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237. Periodicals Postage Paid at Brooklyn, NY, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *Our Kingdom Ministry,* 1000 Red Mills Road, **Wallkill, NY 12589-3299.** Printed in U.S.A.

## WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 26

Song 200

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* app. pp. 219-221

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Deuteronomy 11-13
Theocratic Ministry School Review

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 67

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Prepare to Offer *The Watchtower* and *Awake!* Talk. Review the contents of the current magazines, and highlight which articles may be of interest in the local territory. Include one demonstration in which a parent helps a child to prepare for the ministry. The parent and child select an article, develop a question, and choose a scripture to use. The child then demonstrates his presentation, mentioning the donation arrangement.

**10 min:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Audience discussion. Ask audience to relate which chapters in the book they have been able to use most effectively in the local territory. When introducing the book, which question, picture, or scripture have they used? Have one presentation demonstrated.

**10 min:** Question Box. Audience discussion. Read and discuss the scriptures in the box.

Song 70

## Theocratic Ministry School Review

The following questions will be considered at the Theocratic Ministry School during the week beginning October 26, 2009.

1. Since Jehovah told Balaam to go with Balak's men, why did Jehovah get angry with Balaam when he went with them? (Num. 22:20-22) [*w04* 8/1 p. 27 par. 2]
2. How does Phinehas' 'toleration of no rivalry' toward Jehovah help us reflect on our dedication to God? (Num. 25:11) [*w95* 3/1 p. 16 par. 13]
3. Why was Joshua selected as Moses' successor? (Num. 27:15-19) [*w02* 12/1 p. 12 par. 1]
4. How might Numbers 31:27 be of encouragement to Christians today? [*w05* 3/15 p. 24]
5. In what ways did the arrangement of cities of refuge benefit the people in Israel? (Num. 35:11, 12) [*w95* 11/15 p. 14 par. 17]
6. Why is discretion an important Christian quality, and what results therefrom? (Deut. 1:13) [*w03* 1/15 30; *w00* 10/1 p. 32 pars. 1-3]
7. In what ways did the Mosaic Law express God's righteousness? (Deut. 4:8) [*w02* 6/1 p. 14 par. 8–p. 15 pars. 9-10]
8. Explain the right way and the wrong way to put Jehovah to the test, in harmony with Deuteronomy 6:16-18. [*w04* 9/15 p. 27 par. 1]
9. How had the Israelites' needs been filled by Jehovah's utterances, and how can those utterances nourish us today? (Deut. 8:3) [*w99* 8/15 pp. 25-26]
10. How does Deuteronomy 12:16, 24 affect our view of medical procedures involving the use of one's own blood? [*w00* 10/15 p. 30 par. 7]

## *QUESTION BOX*

■ **What should you do if directed to stop preaching?**

In some instances, the police have approached publishers who were sharing in some form of the ministry, informed them that they were violating the law, and directed them to stop. You should promptly and politely leave the territory if directed to do so. (Matt. 5:41; Phil. 4:5) Do not try to resolve matters on your own by getting involved in a discussion about our legal rights. If it is possible, tactfully obtain the badge number of the police officer and the number of his precinct. Thereafter, promptly inform the elders, who will then contact the branch office about the incident. Similarly, if you are asked to leave an apartment building or complex by the superintendent or any other apartment representative, you should comply immediately and inform the elders. A mild and humble manner of dealing with those in authority can do much to prevent unnecessary difficulties. —Prov. 15:1; Rom. 12:18.

## WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 2

Song 115

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 12 ¶1-8

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Deuteronomy 14-18

**No. 1:** Deuteronomy 15:1-15

**No. 2:** What Does the Fear of God Encompass?

**No. 3:** God Remembers His Son (*lr* chap. 39)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 1

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Starting Bible Studies. Audience discussion. Ask selected publishers to relate experiences starting Bible studies on the day designated for this special activity. Announce when the next day is scheduled for offering Bible studies, and have one or two brief demonstrations showing how to do it.

**10 min:** Local needs.

**10 min:** Witness by Letter. Audience discussion based on the *Ministry School* book, pages 71-73.

Song 9

## Announcements

■ Literature offer for **October:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. Where interest is shown, present and discuss the tract *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* If householders already have the tract, endeavor to start a Bible study. **November:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* If householders already have the book, publishers may offer any 192-page book published prior to 1992. **December:** *The Greatest Man Who Ever Lived.* If there are children in the household, offer *Learn From the Great Teacher.* **January:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* If householders already have the book, publishers may offer any 192-page book published prior to 1992.

■ The yearly Theocratic Ministry School Schedule will no longer be provided as an insert in *Our Kingdom Ministry.* Instead, each congregation will receive the yearly schedule, and one copy of the schedule should be posted on the information board at the Kingdom Hall. Another copy will be retained by the school overseer for his use in making assignments. Publishers will continue to receive their personal copy of *Our Kingdom Ministry* each month, and it will show the schedule for the weekly Congregation Bible Study, the Theocratic Ministry School, and the Service Meeting.

■ Starting the week of March 1, 2010, the book *"Come Be My Follower"* will be considered at the Congregation Bible Study. Congregations needing a supply of these books should request them on their next literature request.

### Field Service Highlights

We were pleased to see a sizable increase in the number of Bible studies conducted in the United States during June. The total of 657,043 Bible studies conducted is an increase of 46,403 over the same month last year. The figure of 650,000 Bible studies has been surpassed every month this year.

## What to Say About the Magazines

### THE WATCHTOWER® ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM October 1

"Many today have lost faith in a Creator. Why do you think that is? [Allow for response.] These verses give one possible reason. [Read Habakkuk 1:2, 3.] This article helps resolve some common questions about God that have caused people to lack faith in him." Feature the article that begins on page 11.

### Awake!® October

"Would you agree that families face numerous challenges today? [Allow for response.] Many are not aware of the practical advice found in the Bible. Here's an example. [Read a scripture found in the magazine.] This special issue of *Awake!* shows how Bible principles can help families successfully cope with various situations."

### THE WATCHTOWER® ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM November 1

"Do you think that everything taught in the churches is from the Bible? [Allow for response.] The Bible warns us to be careful that we are not deceived by falsehoods. [Read Colossians 2:8.] This magazine exposes six traditional teachings that conflict with God's Word."

### Awake!® November

"Devices such as the cell phone and the computer have become a normal part of life. Do you think the use of technology saves time or wastes it? [Allow for response.] Most would agree with this encouragement to use time wisely. [Read Ephesians 5:15, 16.] This magazine discusses how we can use technology in a balanced and considerate way."

# OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

NOVEMBER 2009

**WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 9**

Song 145

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 12 ¶9-14

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Deuteronomy 19-22

**No. 1:** Deuteronomy 22:1-19

**No. 2:** How to Make God Happy (*lr* chap. 40)

**No. 3:** Are the 144,000 Only Natural Jews? (*rs* p. 166 ¶5–p. 167 ¶3)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 11

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Our Role in Literature Placements. Audience discussion based on the *Organized* book, page 133, paragraphs 1-3. Highlight the responsibility each publisher has to use Kingdom assets wisely.

**20 min:** "Return on Interested Ones —When?" Question-and-answer discussion. Have a demonstration of a publisher making a return visit with the goal of starting a Bible study.

Song 214

## Return on Interested Ones —When?

[1] Making disciples involves calling back on anyone who indicates a willingness to learn of Jehovah's Kingdom arrangement. (Matt. 28:19, 20) The best time to make a return visit often depends on our schedule as well as that of the interested one. Why should we return shortly after our initial visit?

1. What is involved in making disciples?

[2] **Why Return Soon?** The work of preaching "this good news of the kingdom" is far advanced, and the end of this system of things has drawn close. (Matt. 24:14; 1 Pet. 4:7) Therefore, while "a day of salvation" is still available to interested ones, we must heed the admonition to 'preach the word urgently,' which includes returning as soon as possible to cultivate interest shown.—2 Cor. 6:1, 2; 2 Tim. 4:2.

[3] Satan is eager to take away any Kingdom seed that we might sow in an interested person's heart. (Mark 4:14, 15) Family members, workmates, and others often ridicule those who have shown interest. Returning quickly enables us to build on our earlier discussion before others succeed in putting out the spark of interest.

[4] **Make an Appointment:** It is best to make definite arrangements to return before you leave the initial call. Raise a question that you will answer on the next visit. Good personal record keeping in this regard is necessary. If your schedule allows, you might ask to return the next day or shortly thereafter. If the initial call is on the weekend and the interested person is working during the week, perhaps he will agree to another visit the following weekend. When you make an appointment, be sure to keep your word.—Matt. 5:37.

[5] We have good reasons to return on interested ones as soon as possible. Therefore, make an appointment and return soon, for "the time left is reduced." (1 Cor. 7:29) The sooner we revisit those interested in the Kingdom message, the more productive our efforts are likely to be.

2, 3. Why should we try to return as soon as possible?

4. On the initial call, how may we lay the groundwork for a return visit?

5. How will our returning without delay help us to fulfill Jesus' commission to make disciples?

**WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 16**
Song 62

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 12 ¶15-22, box on p. 140

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Deuteronomy 23-27
**No. 1:** Deuteronomy 25:1-16
**No. 2:** Children Who Make God Happy (*lr* chap. 41)
**No. 3:** What Things Should We Hold Sacred?

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 146
**5 min:** Announcements.
**10 min:** Use Discernment and Reach the Heart. Talk based on the *Ministry School* book, page 258, paragraph 1, to page 259, paragraph 3.
**10 min:** Direct Interested Ones to Jehovah's Organization. Audience discussion of *Organized* book, page 99, paragraph 2, to page 100, paragraph 1. Include a demonstration that briefly illustrates one of the points from the material.
**10 min:** "Be Aglow With the Spirit." Question-and-answer discussion.
Song 16

## "Be Aglow With the Spirit"

[1] No aspect of our Christian service should become stagnant. Rather, we are encouraged to "be aglow with the spirit" and to "slave for Jehovah." (Rom. 12:11) However, there are many things that can diminish our zeal for our ministry. How can we "stir up like a fire" our zeal and enthusiasm for our Kingdom service?—2 Tim. 1:6, 7.

[2] **Personal Bible Study:** An effective Kingdom preacher is one who loves God's law and is deeply touched by the truths found therein. (Ps. 119:97) When Bible treasures are found during personal study, this stirs our hearts and intensifies our zeal. Love for the Provider of such truths and our desire to share good news with others moves us to offer praise to God and publicly declare his name. (Heb. 13:15) Clearly, presenting the good news in earnest reflects our deep appreciation for its value.

[3] **Pray for God's Spirit:** An effective ministry is not accomplished in our own strength. Genuine zeal comes from a free flow of God's spirit. (1 Pet. 4:11) Drawing closer to the Source of "dynamic energy" will give us the spiritual fortitude to witness boldly. (Isa. 40:26, 29-31) When the apostle Paul faced adversity in his ministry, he "obtained the help that is from God." (Acts 26:21, 22) Jehovah's invigorating holy spirit can help us to be aglow in our ministry, so we should pray for it.—Luke 11:9-13.

[4] Fiery zeal for Kingdom preaching often generates greater zeal among fellow Christians. (2 Cor. 9:2) In the territory, individuals are more likely to respond to a message that is presented with enthusiasm and conviction. Zeal, however, must always be accompanied by tact and mildness. (Titus 3:2) At all times, we seek to dignify the householder and respect his freedom of choice.

[5] As Kingdom proclaimers, may we always "be aglow with the spirit." Let us cultivate zeal through personal Bible study and fervent prayer to Jehovah, the one who can supply us with dynamic holy spirit. In this way, we can zealously carry out our ministry "with holy spirit and strong conviction."—1 Thess. 1:5.

1. What characteristic should mark our preaching?
2. What relationship does personal Bible study have with a zealous ministry?
3. How can God's spirit influence our ministry?
4. Zeal can generate what fine results, yet what cautions are in order?
5. What inspired admonition should we endeavor to apply?

© 2009 Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. All rights reserved. *Our Kingdom Ministry* (ISSN 1067-7259) is published monthly by Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses; C. I. Woody, President; W. H. Nonkes, Secretary-Treasurer; 2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237. Periodicals Postage Paid at Brooklyn, NY, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *Our Kingdom Ministry*, 1000 Red Mills Road, **Wallkill, NY 12589-3299.** Printed in U.S.A.

**WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 23**

Song 175

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 13 ¶1-4, boxes on pp. 148-149, 158-159

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Deuteronomy 28-31

**No. 1:** Deuteronomy 30:1-14

**No. 2:** Why We Need to Work (*lr* chap. 42)

**No. 3:** What Is the Scriptural Hope of the "Great Crowd"? (*rs* p. 167 ¶4–p. 168 ¶1)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 206

**5 min:** Announcements.

**5 min:** Prepare to Offer *The Watchtower* and *Awake!* Suggest which articles may be of greatest interest in the local territory. Include a demonstration showing how an experienced publisher can help a new publisher to prepare for magazine work.

**25 min:** "Developing the Foreign-Language Field." Question-and-answer discussion. After considering paragraph 4, have a publisher demonstrate the suggested approach.

Song 165

## Developing the Foreign-Language Field

[1] Jesus Christ foretold that the good news would be preached throughout the earth "for a witness to all the nations." Those words ring clear in the ears of every minister who shares in the preaching and teaching work. (Matt. 24:14; 28:19, 20) As we go about preaching and making disciples, we may find people of different nationalities who speak a language other than ours. These too deserve an opportunity to hear the Kingdom message and take a firm stand for the truth before the fear-inspiring day of Jehovah arrives. (Mal. 3:18) How can we develop the foreign-language field in our assigned territory?

[2] **Reflect Jehovah's View of Those Who Speak Another Language:** To reflect Jehovah's love impartially with everyone in our territory, we must have an intense desire to help people come to an accurate knowledge of the true God, Jehovah, regardless of the language they may speak. (Ps. 83:18; Acts 10:34, 35) Although we focus primarily on those who speak the language of the congregation we are associated with, we must be mindful of and attentive to the needs of those who speak another language and look for ways to share God's Kingdom message with them. To overlook those who speak another language would not be in harmony with Jehovah's purpose to give a witness to people of all the nations. How, then, may we help people who do not speak our language?

[3] **Use *Good News for People of All Nations:*** This booklet has been designed to be used when we encounter those who speak a language different from ours. Have this booklet with you at all times, get familiar with its different features, and be prepared to use it. For quick reference, mark the different languages encountered in your territory. If literature is available in these languages, it may be practical to obtain a few items for placement with the person after using the message in the booklet.

[4] If you meet someone in the ministry who speaks another language and you are

1. What opportunity has arisen as we share in the preaching work in our assigned territories?
2. In what way do we imitate Jehovah when speaking to others of another language?
3. What useful tool has been provided for us, and how can we prepare ourselves to use it?
4. How can the *Nations* booklet be used in our ministry?

not sure which language he speaks, start by displaying the booklet's cover. Turn to the world map on the inside cover, point to yourself and the country where you live, and indicate that you would like to know where the householder is from and what language he speaks. After you have determined his language, consult the table of contents, find the appropriate page, direct the householder's attention to the sentence in bold type at the top of the page, and then indicate that you would like the householder to read the message. When he is finished, offer a tract in his language or point to the sentence highlighted in gray, which mentions that you are willing to return with a publication in the householder's own language. Then point to the expression "my name" in bold type, and state your name clearly. Point to "your name" in bold type, and await the householder's response. Make definite arrangements for a return visit.

[5] **Follow-Up Arrangements:** Every effort must be made to visit those showing interest in the Kingdom message, regardless of their language. Once we have established that there is interest in God and his Word, the Bible, we should fill out a *Please Follow Up* (S-43) form and promptly give it to the congregation secretary for submittal to the branch office so that this interested person can receive a visit from someone who speaks his language. In turn, the branch office will forward the form to the appropriate language group. When it is received, the person will be contacted without delay. The secretary may provide a copy of the form to the service overseer so that he may be kept abreast of the interest being shown by a particular language group. This form should be used only when the individual shows true interest.

[6] From the time the S-43 form has been submitted until the interested person is called on by a designated publisher who speaks his language, some time may pass. Therefore, in an effort to develop the interest shown, the publisher who submitted the S-43 form may continue to cultivate the interest until the person is contacted by someone who speaks his language. In some cases, a Bible study may be conducted with the interested person. However, during this transition period, how may a publisher obtain literature in the language of the person showing interest?

[7] **Literature for Other Languages:** Congregations should not carry a large stock of literature in other languages. However, if it is determined by the service overseer that there is interest developing in a particular language group, he may find it appropriate to stock a modest amount of literature in that language for use by the publishers. If there is no literature available at the congregation, it may be ordered. It may take some time for literature in a particular language to arrive. Therefore, a provision is available for making printouts of literature from www.watchtower.org. There are many publications featured in hundreds of languages that can immediately be accessed by the publisher or by the interested person. No doubt this provision will prove to be useful when cultivating the interest shown by those who speak a different language.

---

5. What follow-up is necessary to care properly for those of another language who show interest?

6. If we meet an interested person who speaks another language, what responsibility do we have?

7. What provision is there for obtaining literature in the language of those we may meet?

[8] **Role of the Congregation:** In some cases in which a sizable foreign-language community is developing, there may be no nearby congregation conducting meetings in that language. Therefore, interested ones who speak another language should be invited to attend your meetings. The warm reception and personal interest shown to them may encourage them to associate regularly. At first, there may be a language and cultural barrier; however, there are no barriers for true Christian love in the worldwide association of Jehovah's Witnesses. (Zeph. 3:9; John 13:35) Do you speak another language fluently? If you do and are willing to follow up on calls in that language, please inform your congregation secretary so that this information can be conveyed to the branch office. This will be helpful when the branch office is looking for a publisher to cultivate the interest.

[9] **Language Instruction:** When you are assisting those who speak another language, it is best to encourage them to begin attending a congregation in their own language if it is reasonably possible for them to do so. However, when that is not possible, some publishers may decide to learn the other language and thus be able to give better assistance to the interested ones. If there is no nearby congregation, the branch office may determine that because of the sizable immigrant or indigenous community, a language class is warranted. Should this be the case, the branch office may inform nearby congregations of the existing need and arrange for an announcement concerning a language class. Those applying to attend the language course should have the goal of switching over to the group or congregation to assist with developing that language field.

[10] **Forming a Group:** In order for a group in a particular language to be formed, four basic requirements must be met. (1) There should be sufficient interest and potential for growth in a particular language field. (2) A small core group of publishers should know the language or be learning the language. (3) A qualified elder or ministerial servant should be available to take the lead and conduct at least one weekly meeting in that language. (4) A body of elders should be willing to sponsor the group. When these requirements are met to a reasonable degree, then the body of elders will write the branch office about the particulars of the group and will request formal recognition as a congregation sponsoring a foreign-language group. (See *Organized,* pp. 106-107.) The elder or ministerial servant taking the lead would be considered the "group overseer" or "group servant" responsible for taking care of the group.

[11] Developing the foreign-language field within our assigned territory is a vital part of the worldwide preaching campaign that our Exemplar, Jesus Christ, put into effect. May we zealously do our part and see how Jehovah continues to rock the nations and bring in those desirable to him. (Hag. 2:7) How satisfying it is for us to cooperate fully in this endeavor! May Jehovah bless our united efforts to develop the foreign-language field in our respective territories as we always remember that regardless of human language barriers, God can make it grow!—1 Cor. 3:6-9.

8. What role does the congregation play in cultivating the interest of those who speak another language?

9. When may language instruction for publishers be warranted, and how is this approached?

10. When may a foreign-language group be formed, and how is this determined?

11. Why is it such a privilege to develop the foreign-language field in our assigned territory?

**WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 30**
Song 139

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 13 ¶5-15, box on p. 150

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Deuteronomy 32-34
**No. 1:** Deuteronomy 32:1-21
**No. 2:** What Is "the Great Day of Jehovah"? (Zeph. 1:14)
**No. 3:** Who Are Our Brothers and Sisters? (*lr* chap. 43)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 134
**5 min:** Announcements.
**10 min:** The Offer for December. Include a demonstration of how a family prepares their field service presentations. The family head demonstrates his presentation, and then another member of the family volunteers to give his presentation.
**10 min:** "We Are Witnesses All the Time." Question-and-answer discussion.
**10 min:** Question Box. Audience discussion.
Song 3

## We Are Witnesses All the Time

1 Jesus had been walking for hours. He was tired and thirsty. While his disciples went to buy food, he sat down at a well outside a Samaritan city to rest. Jesus was not in Samaria to preach; he was only passing through on his way to Galilee to continue his ministry there. Nonetheless, he took the opportunity to witness to a woman who was getting water. (John 4:5-14) Why? Jesus never stopped being Jehovah's "faithful and true witness." (Rev. 3:14) We imitate Jesus by being Jehovah's Witnesses all the time.—1 Pet. 2:21.

2 **Be Prepared:** We can be prepared to witness informally by carrying literature with us. Many publishers keep tracts on hand and place them with store clerks, gas station attendants, and others whom they come in contact with throughout the day. (Eccl. 11:6) A sister who travels frequently makes sure she always has a pocket-size Bible and a *Bible Teach* book in her purse, and she tries to start a conversation with those sitting next to her.

3 **Start a Conversation:** When witnessing informally, we do not have to introduce a Scriptural subject at the outset. Jesus did not begin the conversation with the woman at the well by identifying himself as the Messiah. He simply asked her for a drink, awakening her curiosity. (John 4:7-9) One sister found that a similar approach enables her to start a conversation when she is asked if she enjoyed celebrating a holiday. Instead of replying that she did not share in the celebration because she is one of Jehovah's Witnesses, she says, "I've made a personal choice not to celebrate." The curious questioner usually asks why, allowing the sister to witness.

1. What can we learn from the account of Jesus' witnessing to the woman at the well?
2. How may we prepare to witness informally?
3. How may we start a conversation?

[4] Although Jesus finished his zealous earthly ministry, he continues to be very interested in the preaching work being carried out as he did. (Matt. 28:18-20) Therefore, like our Exemplar Jesus, we are Witnesses who are ready to give public declaration of our faith anytime.—Heb. 10:23.

4. Why does Matthew 28:18-20 motivate you?

## QUESTION BOX

### ■ Why is there a need for good judgment in connection with the use of a telephone hookup for congregation meetings?

Many congregations have made it possible for individuals who at times are unable to attend congregation meetings at the Kingdom Hall because of illness or some other unavoidable circumstance to listen to the meeting at home by means of a telephone hookup. Ensuring that this loving provision is used by those who are truly in need requires good judgment and careful organization. Hence, the elders overseeing such an arrangement would want to organize and monitor its use so that "all things take place decently and by arrangement."—1 Cor. 14:40.

Elders will see to it that priority is given to publishers in their congregation with chronic illness or infirmity or who are otherwise shut-in. A publisher temporarily ill or incapacitated, or a progressive Bible student who may be shut-in, might likewise benefit from this provision and be included in the attendance count. Where there are not enough telephone lines to accommodate those with a legitimate need, perhaps other arrangements, such as providing them with a recording of the meeting, can be made.

Of course, nothing can compare to the benefits derived from being personally present at our meetings. Our direct association with our brothers results in "an interchange of encouragement" and helps new ones better appreciate the need to attend. When we are present at our meetings, we absorb far more from demonstrations, the elders are able to give us personal assistance, and we experience firsthand the warm love of the brotherhood. True indeed are the sentiments of one elderly sister who, after receiving a hug as she was exiting the Kingdom Hall exclaimed: "You can't get this over the phone line!"—Rom. 1:11, 12.

Like Anna "who was never missing from the temple," today, many of our older ones are regularly on hand at Christian meetings as their health and circumstances allow. (Luke 2: 36, 37) While using the telephone hookup when necessary, they do not view it as a convenient alternative to attending meetings at the Kingdom Hall. In imitation of their fine example, may we continue to delight in putting forth the effort to be personally present at our meetings as we worship our great God, Jehovah.—Ps. 95:1-3, 6; 122:1.

**WEEK STARTING DECEMBER 7**

Song 108

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 13 ¶16-26, box on p. 156

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Joshua 1-5
**No. 1:** Joshua 5:1-15
**No. 2:** Our Friends Should Love God (*lr* chap. 44)
**No. 3:** What Is God's Kingdom? How to Show We Want It (*lr* chap. 45)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 64
**5 min:** Announcements.
**10 min:** Organized to Work Territory. Audience discussion of the six paragraphs under the subheading "Territory" on pages 102-104 of the *Organized* book. Interview the service overseer regarding local arrangements.
**10 min:** Local needs.
**10 min:** Discern the Questioner's Viewpoint. Audience discussion based on the *Ministry School* book, pages 66-68.
Song 137

## Announcements

■ Literature offer for **November:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* If householders already have the book, publishers may offer any 192-page book published prior to 1992. **December:** *The Greatest Man Who Ever Lived.* If there are children in the household, offer *Learn From the Great Teacher.* **January:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* If householders already have the book, publishers may offer any 192-page book published prior to 1992. **February:** *Is There a Creator Who Cares About You?* Publishers may also offer *The Bible—God's Word or Man's? or The Secret of Family Happiness.*

■ Donations for the worldwide work that are sent directly to the branch office should be made payable to "Watchtower." The branch office's financial address is Watchtower, c/o Treasurer's Office, 25 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, NY 11201-2483.

### Field Service Highlights

We are happy to report a new peak in the total number of publishers in the United States for the month of July! The total of 1,106,110 publishers reporting is an increase of 321 over the previous peak of 1,105,789 set in August 2008.

## What to Say About the Magazines

### THE WATCHTOWER November 1

"Families seem to be under increasing pressure. How do you think families would be affected if members tried to imitate this attitude of Jesus? [Read Matthew 20:28. Then allow for response.] This article discusses five lessons that families can learn from Jesus' example." Feature the article that begins on page 16.

### Awake! November

"Do you see religion as a force for love and peace or for hatred and violence? [Allow for response.] It seems that many are not applying these words of Jesus. [Read Matthew 5:44, 45.] This article answers the question, Is it possible to love one's enemies?" Feature the article that begins on page 10.

### THE WATCHTOWER December 1

"Do you think that one day God will end the suffering in the world? [Allow for response.] Notice this Bible promise that gives us reason for hope. [Read one of the scriptures found in the box on page 7.] This magazine shows what the Bible says about when and how God will end all suffering."

### Awake! December

"Some believe the universe was created, while others feel it came about by accident and has no apparent purpose. What is your opinion? [Allow for response.] Notice the Bible's position. [Read Hebrews 3:4.] This magazine provides a reasonable explanation of the origin and purpose of the universe."

# OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

DECEMBER 2009

**WEEK STARTING DECEMBER 14**

Song 41

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 14 ¶1-9

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Joshua 6-8
**No. 1:** Joshua 8:1-17
**No. 2:** Water Destroys a World—Will It Happen Again? (*lr* chap. 46)
**No. 3:** Why Is Ecclesiastes 7:21, 22 Practical Counsel?

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 161

**5 min:** Announcements.

**15 min:** Why Am I Afraid to Share My Faith? Talk based on the July 2009 *Awake!* pages 24-27. Include a demonstration showing parents using Family Worship evening to prepare their child to answer questions at school. They do research and discuss one of the questions on page 25, then they have a practice session during which the child answers the question.

**15 min:** "Preach With Urgency!" Question-and-answer discussion. When considering paragraph 4, interview a zealous Kingdom publisher and ask the following questions: What steps have you taken to avoid being weighed down by unnecessary things of the world? In what ways have you benefited from preaching with urgency?

Song 92

## Preach With Urgency!

1 "Preach the word, be at it urgently." (2 Tim. 4:2) Why is Paul's exhortation so important in our day? How can these words impact our lives and those of others?

1. What exhortation of Paul demands attention in our day?

2 **Lives Are Involved:** Millions of people around the world have yet to hear the good news that can lead to their salvation. (Rom. 10:13-15; 1 Tim. 4:16) Many honesthearted ones are being found in territory frequently worked. If we call on a different day or at another time of day, we may find a different person. Such diligent searching will leave us with a clean conscience and free of blood-guilt.—Acts 20:26.

3 In spite of facing violent opposition, first-century Christians 'filled Jerusalem with their teaching.' (Acts 5:28) Are we equally determined to "give a thorough witness"? (Acts 10:42) When in the ministry, do we make wise use of time? If we are waiting as others make a return visit, do we take the initiative to speak with passersby?

4 **Increases Our Alertness:** With the end of this system of things near at hand, we must stay alert, keeping on the watch. (1 Thess. 5:1-6) When we regularly speak about our Kingdom hope, we avoid becoming weighed down by this system of things. (Luke 21:34-36) In turn, as we keep the day of Jehovah "close in mind," we are moved to increase our share in the lifesaving preaching work.—2 Pet. 3:11, 12.

5 When we preach with urgency, we reflect Jehovah's view of life: "He does not desire any to be destroyed but desires all to attain to repentance." (2 Pet. 3:9; Ezek. 33:11) May we be resolved to contact as many as possible in our territory, all to Jehovah's praise!—Ps. 109:30.

2. Why do we diligently search for those who have not heard the good news?
3. How can we make wise use of our time in the ministry?
4. How does preaching with urgency help us to keep on the watch?
5. How does respect for life motivate us in the ministry?

**WEEK STARTING DECEMBER 21**

Song 73

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 14 ¶10-14, box on pp. 164-165, app. pp. 222-223

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Joshua 9-11
**No. 1:** Joshua 9:1-15
**No. 2:** How We Can Tell Armageddon Is Near (*lr* chap. 47)
**No. 3:** God's Peaceful New World—You Can Live There (*lr* chap. 48)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 4

**5 min:** Announcements.

**15 min:** Prepare to Offer *The Watchtower* and *Awake!* Present a demonstration showing how a group overseer shares his presentation with a young publisher and explains why he selected it and which question and scriptures he will use. The young publisher explains that he had a presentation in mind but needs help refining it. Using the article he had in mind, they develop a question and select the scriptures he will use.

**15 min:** "'Impart Your Soul' to Your Students." Question-and-answer discussion. After considering paragraph 2, interview a publisher regarding practical ways he endeavors to show personal interest in his students. What has been the result? Also interview a publisher who benefited from personal interest shown by the one conducting his Bible study.

Song 66

## 'Impart Your Soul' to Your Students

[1] In order to help a Bible student to the point of dedication, more is required than simply conducting a regular Bible study with him. The apostle Paul compared his relationship with those he taught to that of a nursing mother cherishing her children. We too are pleased to impart "our own souls" in order to help our students to grow spiritually. —1 Thess. 2:7-9.

1. What is required to help a Bible student?

[2] **Take a Personal Interest:** As a Bible student applies what he learns, his conscience will prompt him to discontinue close association with those who do not conform to Bible principles. (1 Pet. 4:4) His family may disown him. (Matt. 10:34-36) We can help fill the emotional void by demonstrating warm personal interest. One experienced missionary recommends: "Do not rush away from the study after it is over. If appropriate, stay and talk for a while." Be alert to offer your student practical help. For example, could you telephone or visit him when he is sick? Can you sit with your student at meetings and help with the children, if fitting?

[3] **Help From the Congregation:** If you are working in the ministry near your student's home, why not visit briefly to introduce your service companions? When appropriate, from time to time invite different publishers, including elders, to accompany you on the study. Also, soon after you establish a study, encourage your Bible student to attend meetings at the Kingdom Hall. This will enable him to enjoy upbuilding association with members of the congregation who may become his spiritual family.—Mark 10:29, 30; Heb. 10:24, 25.

[4] A parent who tirelessly assists his children spiritually is overjoyed when they take a stand for Jehovah and walk in the truth. (3 John 4) We can experience similar joy as we impart our souls to help our Bible students.

2. Why should we demonstrate personal interest, and how may that be done?
3. How can we help our student receive encouragement from the congregation?
4. How may our diligence be rewarded?

© 2009 Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. All rights reserved. *Our Kingdom Ministry* (ISSN 1067-7259) is published monthly by Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses; C. I. Woody, President; W. H. Nonkes, Secretary-Treasurer; 2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237. Periodicals Postage Paid at Brooklyn, NY, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *Our Kingdom Ministry*, 1000 Red Mills Road, **Wallkill, NY 12589-3299.** Printed in U.S.A.

**WEEK STARTING DECEMBER 28**

Song 84

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 14 ¶15-19, box on p. 167

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Joshua 12-15
Theocratic Ministry School Review

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 35

**5 min:** Announcements. Call attention to the article "Are You Ready to Sing to Jehovah at Our Meetings?" Encourage all to bring their new song book beginning January.

**10 min:** How to Respond. Audience discussion of objections common in your territory. Include a brief demonstration using one of these common objections. (See *Reasoning* book, pages 64-68.)

**10 min:** Starting Bible Studies. Announce the date for the next day for offering Bible studies. What has been accomplished locally when Bible studies were offered? Invite a pioneer or publisher to relate or demonstrate a presentation that has proved to be effective in the local territory.

**10 min:** The Offer for January. Briefly review features of the offer. Discuss with a publisher ways that might be used to start a Bible study with the offer of the month in an informal setting. Encourage all to make it a goal to start a Bible study this month.

Song 193

## Are You Ready to Sing to Jehovah at Our Meetings?

[1] Preparing to participate in our meetings includes preparing to sing songs of praise. Consider the following suggestions.

[2] **Understand the Lyrics:** The theme scripture and additional scriptures listed at the end of each song help to emphasize the Scriptural basis for the lyrics.

[3] **Practice:** A portion of Family Worship each week can be used to become familiar with the new songs. Sing along with the recorded piano accompaniment of songs to be used for each meeting. You may be able to learn the melody and the lyrics of some of the new songs by listening to *Sing to Jehovah —Vocal Renditions,* Disc 1.

[4] Will you be ready this weekend when we begin using *Sing to Jehovah* at the *Watchtower* Study? You will if you take time to understand the meaning of the songs and practice singing them.

## Theocratic Ministry School Review

The following questions will be considered at the Theocratic Ministry School during the week beginning December 28, 2009.

1. How can Christians today apply the principle stated at Deuteronomy 14:1? [*w05* 1/1 p. 28; *w04* 9/15 p. 27 par. 5]
2. How can Deuteronomy 20:5-7 be applied in principle in the Christian congregation today? [*w04* 9/15 p. 27 par. 6]
3. How did Israel differ from other nations in matters involving warfare? (Deut. 20:10-15, 19, 20; 21:10-13) [*cl* pp. 134-135, par. 17]
4. What can help us serve Jehovah with joy of heart? (Deut. 28:47) [*w95* 1/15 p. 16 pars. 4-5]
5. How can parents benefit from the analogy given at Deuteronomy 32:9, 11, 12, which illustrates Jehovah's love for Israel? [*w01* 10/1 p. 9 pars. 7-9]
6. How are we to understand Rahab's misleading words to the king's men who were searching for the spies? (Josh. 2: 4, 5) [*w93* 12/15 p. 25 par. 1]
7. The Israelites' example recorded at Joshua 3:15, 16 teaches us what lesson? [*w04* 12/1 p. 9 par. 6]
8. What can we learn from the way Joshua handled Achan's theft? (Josh. 7:20-25) [*w04* 12/1 p. 11 par. 4]
9. How does Joshua 9:22, 23 highlight the sure fulfillment of God's Word? [*w04* 12/1 p. 11 par. 3; *si* p. 44, par. 13]
10. What encouragement can be drawn from Caleb's example? (Josh. 14:8, 10-12) [*w04* 12/1 p. 12 par. 2; *w93* 5/15 p. 29 par. 1]

## WEEK STARTING JANUARY 4

Song 95

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 15 ¶1-9

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Joshua 16-20
**No. 1:** Joshua 17:1-10
**No. 2:** What Will Those Who Go to Heaven Do There? (*rs* p. 168 ¶2-6)
**No. 3:** Why "Limping Upon Two Different Opinions" Cannot Please God (1 Ki. 18:21)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 103

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Use Questions to Reach the Heart of Your Bible Student. Talk based on the two subheadings on page 239 of the *Ministry School* book.

**10 min:** Local needs.

**10 min:** Use Bible Literature in Your Ministry. Audience discussion of the three paragraphs under "Using Bible Literature" on pages 100 and 101 of the *Organized* book. Invite the service overseer or another elder to give suggestions on how to make good use of our literature and avoid waste.

Song 92

## Announcements

■ Literature offer for **December:** *The Greatest Man Who Ever Lived.* If there are children in the household, offer *Learn From the Great Teacher.* **January:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* If householders already have the book, publishers may offer any 192-page book published prior to 1992. **February:** *Is There a Creator Who Cares About You?* Publishers may also offer *The Bible —God's Word or Man's?* or *The Secret of Family Happiness.* **March:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Endeavor to start Bible studies when the publication is placed or if a copy is already in the home.

■ The Memorial for the year **2011** will be on Sunday, April 17, after sundown. This advance notice is given so that brothers may make necessary reservations or contracts for available halls when there are several congregations using the Kingdom Hall and other facilities must be found.

### Field Service Highlights

The August 2009 report marked an important new milestone in theocratic progress for the United States branch. There were new peaks in Kingdom publishers in all three territories assigned to our branch. In the United States, the total of 1,154,275 publishers reporting is an increase of 48,165 over the previous peak of 1,106,110 set in July 2009. Truly, Jehovah 'is speeding up the work in its own time.'—Isaiah 60:22.

## What to Say About the Magazines

### The Watchtower® December 1

"During this time of year, many set up a Nativity scene to depict this Bible account. [Read Matthew 2:1, 11.] Did you notice the differences between what the Bible says occurred and what is usually depicted? [Allow for response.] This article discusses what really happened." Feature the article on page 31.

### Awake!® December

"I would like to get your opinion on something Jesus said. [Read Matthew 5:3.] Since there are so many different religions, do you think it matters how we choose to fulfill our spiritual need? [Allow for response.] This article shows what the Bible says on how to find true spiritual satisfaction." Feature the article that begins on page 12.

### The Watchtower® January 1

"There are conflicting religious opinions regarding the use of alcoholic beverages. How do you think God feels about a person's drinking alcohol? [Allow for response.] Although the Bible reports that Jesus once miraculously turned water to wine, it also says this. [Read Proverbs 23:20a.] This magazine shows the Bible's balanced viewpoint."

### Awake!® January

"In these difficult times, many people feel overworked and stressed out. Have you felt that way? [Allow for response.] Notice this reasonable advice. [Read Ecclesiastes 4:6.] This magazine discusses how we can balance work, family, and relaxation. It also gives suggestions for those looking for a job."

# OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY
OCTOBER 2009

**WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 12**
Song 110

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* chap. 11 ¶10-19

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Deuteronomy 4-6
**No. 1:** Deuteronomy 4:15-28
**No. 2:** Remembering Jehovah and His Son (*lr* chap. 37)
**No. 3:** When Can It Be Said That Less Is Better? (Prov. 15:16)

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 13
**5 min:** Announcements.
**10 min:** Conducting Home Bible Studies. Talk based on information from *Organized* book, page 98, paragraph 1, to page 99, paragraph 1. Invite publishers to comment briefly on the joy they have experienced in teaching someone the truth.
**10 min:** The Offer for October. Have two demonstrations. One should raise a question that may be answered on the return visit. The other should demonstrate how to offer a Bible study on the first visit. A brief audience discussion may follow each demonstration, highlighting what was learned.
**10 min:** "Are You Ready for Informal Witnessing?" Question-and-answer discussion.
Song 48

## Are You Ready for Informal Witnessing?

1 Informal witnessing can be very effective. The Bible contains numerous examples of informal witnessing with good results. (John 4:7-15) What might we do to prepare for this type of witnessing?

2 **Dress and Grooming:** Proper attention to our dress and grooming at all times will allow us to share our faith freely with others. (1 Tim. 2:9, 10) If we feel uncomfortable about our appearance, we will likely hold back from giving a witness. In contrast, our neat, clean appearance may in itself arouse curiosity. For example, while traveling, a well-dressed Witness couple were seated next to a Muslim man. Noticing their appearance, the man asked if they were Christians. This led to a three-hour Bible discussion.

3 **Starting Conversations:** When Jesus met the Samaritan woman at Jacob's fountain, he began the conversation by simply requesting that she give him a drink. Similarly, we may be able to start a conversation by making a brief statement or by asking a simple question. Although we may at times be hesitant, by depending on Jehovah's assistance, we may 'muster up boldness' to start a conversation. —1 Thess. 2:2.

4 **Creating Opportunities:** Many publishers have found ways to witness informally. Review your circumstances, and think about the people you are likely to meet on a daily basis. Carry with you appropriate literature and a small Bible. Be observant, and take an interest in people around you. When you have given thought to opportunities that you may encounter during the day, you will likely be ready to give a fine witness.—Phil. 1:12-14; 1 Pet. 3:15.

5 We have two good reasons for taking advantage of opportunities to witness informally—love for God and love for neighbor. (Matt. 22:37-39) In view of the urgency of the preaching work, informal witnessing cannot be left merely to chance. We should be ready to take advantage of every appropriate opportunity to share the Kingdom good news with others while there is yet time.—Rom. 10:13, 14; 2 Tim. 4:2.

1. What example shows that informal witnessing can be effective?
2. How can our dress and grooming complement our readiness to give a witness?
3. Following Jesus' example, how have you started a conversation?
4. How can we get ready to witness informally?
5. Why should informal witnessing not be left to chance?

**WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 19**

Song 86

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 11 ¶20-22, box on p. 131

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Deuteronomy 7-10

**No. 1:** Deuteronomy 9:1-14

**No. 2:** Why We Should Love Jesus (*lr* chap. 38)

**No. 3:** To How Many Does the Bible Hold Out Hope of Heavenly Life? (*rs* p. 166 ¶3-4)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 44

***5* min:** Announcements.

**15 min:** Research Can Enhance Understanding. Talk based on material from page 33 to the subheading on page 34 of the *Ministry School* book. Discuss the material from the standpoint of publishers encouraging Bible students by showing them how to do research to fortify their faith and to prepare for the ministry. Present a demonstration showing how a publisher can help a Bible student to understand the value of research.

**15 min:** "Telephone Witnessing Can Be Effective." Question-and-answer discussion. Have two publishers each demonstrate a presentation using the offer for the month.

Song 75

## Telephone Witnessing Can Be Effective

[1] Why might we consider using telephone witnessing in our ministry? Because it is another means of helping others to obtain accurate knowledge for gaining salvation. (2 Pet. 3:9) Although our primary method of declaring the good news of God's Kingdom is house-to-house preaching, we willingly take advantage of other methods to reach those who may not be found at home.—Matt. 24:14; Luke 10: 1-7; Rev. 14:6.

1. Why might telephone witnessing be considered an important part of our ministry?

[2] **How It Is Organized:** As with field service arrangements for house-to-house work, telephone witnessing territory is also provided for the publishers. It may be done alone or with a *small group of perhaps two or three.* The place that is used should be conducive to the task at hand. Many find it advantageous to sit at a table and have in front of them items that they normally use when preaching from house to house.

[3] **How to Witness by Telephone:** When witnessing over the telephone, our presentation should be conversational. Some who are just beginning may read a presentation to the householder but in a conversational manner. Introductions found in the *Reasoning* book, *Our Kingdom Ministry,* and the tract *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* can be helpful in this regard. When developing your own presentation, identify a theme, develop a question, and be ready to share a few scriptures that provide the answer. Generally you would offer the same publications that are being offered from house to house. Consider the following reminders: Relax and speak slowly. Be courteous, patient, and friendly, as this can be perceived over the phone. Listen as the householder gives his thoughts, then acknowledge and express appreciation for his comments. Be careful not to mention the donation arrangement, as this could be misinterpreted as a form of telephone solicitation.

[4] The person you talk to on the telephone may be a shut-in or a person whose work schedule makes it difficult to reach him in the house-to-house ministry. There are others who live in gated communities or in apartments with restricted entrance. Therefore, in an effort to accomplish our ministry more fully and thoroughly, consider using the effective method of telephone witnessing.

2. How is telephone witnessing organized?
3. What should we keep in mind when witnessing over the phone?
4. What may telephone witnessing enable us to do with our assigned territory?

© 2009 Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. All rights reserved. *Our Kingdom Ministry* (ISSN 1067-7259) is published monthly by Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses; C. I. Woody, President; W. H. Nonkes, Secretary-Treasurer; 2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237. Periodicals Postage Paid at Brooklyn, NY, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *Our Kingdom Ministry,* 1000 Red Mills Road, **Wallkill, NY 12589-3299.** Printed in U.S.A.

## WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 26

Song 200

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**
*lv* app. pp. 219-221

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**
Bible reading: Deuteronomy 11-13
Theocratic Ministry School Review

❑ **Service Meeting:**
Song 67

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Prepare to Offer *The Watchtower* and *Awake!* Talk. Review the contents of the current magazines, and highlight which articles may be of interest in the local territory. Include one demonstration in which a parent helps a child to prepare for the ministry. The parent and child select an article, develop a question, and choose a scripture to use. The child then demonstrates his presentation, mentioning the donation arrangement.

**10 min:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Audience discussion. Ask audience to relate which chapters in the book they have been able to use most effectively in the local territory. When introducing the book, which question, picture, or scripture have they used? Have one presentation demonstrated.

**10 min:** Question Box. Audience discussion. Read and discuss the scriptures in the box.

Song 70

## Theocratic Ministry School Review

The following questions will be considered at the Theocratic Ministry School during the week beginning October 26, 2009.

1. Since Jehovah told Balaam to go with Balak's men, why did Jehovah get angry with Balaam when he went with them? (Num. 22:20-22) [*w04* 8/1 p. 27 par. 2]
2. How does Phinehas' 'toleration of no rivalry' toward Jehovah help us reflect on our dedication to God? (Num. 25:11) [*w95* 3/1 p. 16 par. 13]
3. Why was Joshua selected as Moses' successor? (Num. 27:15-19) [*w02* 12/1 p. 12 par. 1]
4. How might Numbers 31:27 be of encouragement to Christians today? [*w05* 3/15 p. 24]
5. In what ways did the arrangement of cities of refuge benefit the people in Israel? (Num. 35:11, 12) [*w95* 11/15 p. 14 par. 17]
6. Why is discretion an important Christian quality, and what results therefrom? (Deut. 1:13) [*w03* 1/15 30; *w00* 10/1 p. 32 pars. 1-3]
7. In what ways did the Mosaic Law express God's righteousness? (Deut. 4:8) [*w02* 6/1 p. 14 par. 8–p. 15 pars. 9-10]
8. Explain the right way and the wrong way to put Jehovah to the test, in harmony with Deuteronomy 6:16-18. [*w04* 9/15 p. 27 par. 1]
9. How had the Israelites' needs been filled by Jehovah's utterances, and how can those utterances nourish us today? (Deut. 8:3) [*w99* 8/15 pp. 25-26]
10. How does Deuteronomy 12:16, 24 affect our view of medical procedures involving the use of one's own blood? [*w00* 10/15 p. 30 par. 7]

## *QUESTION BOX*

■ **What should you do if directed to stop preaching?**

In some instances, the police have approached publishers who were sharing in some form of the ministry, informed them that they were violating the law, and directed them to stop. You should promptly and politely leave the territory if directed to do so. (Matt. 5:41; Phil. 4:5) Do not try to resolve matters on your own by getting involved in a discussion about our legal rights. If it is possible, tactfully obtain the badge number of the police officer and the number of his precinct. Thereafter, promptly inform the elders, who will then contact the branch office about the incident. Similarly, if you are asked to leave an apartment building or complex by the superintendent or any other apartment representative, you should comply immediately and inform the elders. A mild and humble manner of dealing with those in authority can do much to prevent unnecessary difficulties. —Prov. 15:1; Rom. 12:18.

## WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 2

Song 115

❑ **Congregation Bible Study:**

*lv* chap. 12 ¶1-8

❑ **Theocratic Ministry School:**

Bible reading: Deuteronomy 14-18

**No. 1:** Deuteronomy 15:1-15

**No. 2:** What Does the Fear of God Encompass?

**No. 3:** God Remembers His Son (*lr* chap. 39)

❑ **Service Meeting:**

Song 1

**5 min:** Announcements.

**10 min:** Starting Bible Studies. Audience discussion. Ask selected publishers to relate experiences starting Bible studies on the day designated for this special activity. Announce when the next day is scheduled for offering Bible studies, and have one or two brief demonstrations showing how to do it.

**10 min:** Local needs.

**10 min:** Witness by Letter. Audience discussion based on the *Ministry School* book, pages 71-73.

Song 9

## Announcements

■ Literature offer for **October:** The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. Where interest is shown, present and discuss the tract *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* If householders already have the tract, endeavor to start a Bible study. **November:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* If householders already have the book, publishers may offer any 192-page book published prior to 1992. **December:** *The Greatest Man Who Ever Lived.* If there are children in the household, offer *Learn From the Great Teacher.* **January:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* If householders already have the book, publishers may offer any 192-page book published prior to 1992.

■ The yearly Theocratic Ministry School Schedule will no longer be provided as an insert in *Our Kingdom Ministry.* Instead, each congregation will receive the yearly schedule, and one copy of the schedule should be posted on the information board at the Kingdom Hall. Another copy will be retained by the school overseer for his use in making assignments. Publishers will continue to receive their personal copy of *Our Kingdom Ministry* each month, and it will show the schedule for the weekly Congregation Bible Study, the Theocratic Ministry School, and the Service Meeting.

■ Starting the week of March 1, 2010, the book *"Come Be My Follower"* will be considered at the Congregation Bible Study. Congregations needing a supply of these books should request them on their next literature request.

### Field Service Highlights

We were pleased to see a sizable increase in the number of Bible studies conducted in the United States during June. The total of 657,043 Bible studies conducted is an increase of 46,403 over the same month last year. The figure of 650,000 Bible studies has been surpassed every month this year.

## What to Say About the Magazines

### THE WATCHTOWER® ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM October 1

"Many today have lost faith in a Creator. Why do you think that is? [Allow for response.] These verses give one possible reason. [Read Habakkuk 1:2, 3.] This article helps resolve some common questions about God that have caused people to lack faith in him." Feature the article that begins on page 11.

### Awake!® October

"Would you agree that families face numerous challenges today? [Allow for response.] Many are not aware of the practical advice found in the Bible. Here's an example. [Read a scripture found in the magazine.] This special issue of *Awake!* shows how Bible principles can help families successfully cope with various situations."

### THE WATCHTOWER® ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM November 1

"Do you think that everything taught in the churches is from the Bible? [Allow for response.] The Bible warns us to be careful that we are not deceived by falsehoods. [Read Colossians 2:8.] This magazine exposes six traditional teachings that conflict with God's Word."

### Awake!® November

"Devices such as the cell phone and the computer have become a normal part of life. Do you think the use of technology saves time or wastes it? [Allow for response.] Most would agree with this encouragement to use time wisely. [Read Ephesians 5:15, 16.] This magazine discusses how we can use technology in a balanced and considerate way."